FBIS **DAILY REPORT**

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

9 JULY 1986

Jordan

PLO Offices Closure — Jordan's closure of PLO offices is a "serious" measure indicating that there is a plan to "abandon" the PLO, strike at it politically, and break its ties with the Palestinians living under Israeli occupation, PLO deputy military commander Khalil al-Wazir asserted in an interview with Radio Monte Carlo. Despite its differences with Jordan, the PLO has taken care not to resort to "abuses or recriminations," Al-Wazir maintained, adding that Jordan used the 19 June Fatah Revolutionary Council statement as a "pretext." In other Palestinian comment cited by Radio Monte Carlo, Fatah Central Committee member Salah Khalaf viewed Al-Wazir's expulsion from Jordan as "illegal" because he holds Jordanian citizenship. In Damascus, the DFLP and PFLP denounced the Jordanian action, which was not mentioned in official Syrian media, the radio noted.

Israeli Prime Minister Shim'on Peres said he is happy that Jordan made the "important decision" to close PLO offices, asserting that the PLO is the main obstacle to a dialogue with Jordan, IDF radio reported. Israel will shortly take firmer measures against Fatah supporters in the occupied territories in order to strengthen King Husayn's supporters and complement his decision to remove Fatah offices, the Israeli paper *Ma'ariv* disclosed.

Other Developments — King Husayn arrived in Al-Ta'if at the start of a visit to Saudi Arabia, Riyadh radio reported, adding that he was received by Saudi King Fahd. Meanwhile, the speaker of Jordan's House of Representatives told the London paper *Al-Sharq al-Awsat* that Husayn will visit Damascus and Baghdad this week to resume his mediation efforts between Syria and Iraq.

As for the universities issue, *Sawt al-Sha'b* revealed that the Higher Education Council has decided to dismiss 15 teachers at Al-Yarmuk University and has recommended that King Husayn accept the resignation of the university president.

Iran-Iraq War

Iraqi forces killed 10,000 Iranian troops and wounded 20,000 more in fighting "this week" in the Mehran sector, according to an Iraqi military spokesman cited by INA. In 8 July activity, "grave losses" were inflicted upon attacking Iranian troops in the area, according to a military communique broadcast by Voice of the Masses radio.

For Iran's part, Tehran radio announced that Iranian warplanes raided Iraqi positions in the Mehran area 9 July, and a military communique cited by IRNA announced four air strikes against Iraqi positions in the area the previous day. The agency reported that another 2,000 Iraqis were killed or wounded in the Iranian attack 8 July, adding that Iran has now captured 3,100 sq km of territory since the Mehran offensive began 30 June.

Maghreb

Tunisia — President Habib Bourguiba dismissed Mohamed Mzali from his posts of prime minister and secretary general of the Destourian Socialist Party, according to Tunis radio, which added that Bourguiba replaced him in both positions with Rachid Sfar, formerly the finance and economy minister. Bourguiba and Sfar discussed the country's economic situation 8 July, the radio added.

Algeria — President Chadli Bendjedid's stay in a Brussels hospital is proceeding "under very good conditions," Algiers radio reported, adding that postoperative developments are "satisfactory."

Syria

A "responsible source" cited by Damascus radio said Syria condemned the Madrid airport explosion and other similar acts that harm the Arab nation, while noting that Syria continues to condemn acts that serve the "imperialist and Zionist" policy of branding national struggle as terrorism.

Lebanon

New security measures have been implemented in and around Beirut Airport, the head of the airport's security service announced in a statement reported by Voice of Lebanon radio. On the extent of Syrian involvement in the security plan, an Israeli military source cited by *The Jerusalem Post* stated that the Syrians have sent only 150 troops to Beirut.

Libya

Greece has decided to cut the staff of the Libyan Embassy in Athens by 15-20 people, according to a Greek Government spokesman cited by Athens radio.

Iran

A Petroleum Ministry official cited by IRNA stated that Iran will not accept an OPEC production ceiling of 17.6 million barrels per day nor "unrealistic" quotas.

PDRY

The YSP Central Committee Political Bureau highly assessed the results of the PDRY-YAR-Libya talks held recently in Tripoli, according to Aden radio, which added that the Political Bureau expressed satisfaction with the development of dialogue between the PDRY and YAR for achieving Yemeni unity.

FBIS DAILY REPORT
CONTENTS
Middle East & Africa

Vol V No 131 *9 July 1986*

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW i

INTER-ARAB AFFAIRS

- PLO Leader Renews Call for Conference on Mideast *[Baghdad Voice of PLO]* ..... A 1
- 'Arafat Reacts to Closing of PLO Offices in Jordan *[Vienna Television Service]* ..... A 1
  - Blames U.S., Israel *[Vienna KURIER 9 Jul]* ..... A 1
  - Salah Khalaf Comments *[Baghdad Voice of PLO]* ..... A 2
  - Factions in Syria React *[Paris Radio Monte Carlo]* ..... A 2
  - Envoy in Cairo Reacts *[Cario MENA]* ..... A 2
- PLO Chairman Criticizes Jordanian W. Bank Moves *[Vienna NEUE AZ 8 Jul]* ..... A 3

ARABIAN PENINSULA

KUWAIT

- Lebanese Envoy Delivers Karami Message for Amir ..... C 1
  - Meets Deputy Premier ..... C 1
  - AL-ITTIHAD on Tour *[8 Jul]* ..... C 1

SAUDI ARABIA

- Joint Talks With Jordan Begin in Al-Ta'if ..... C 1

EGYPT

- Railway Traffic Returns 'Completely to Normal' ..... D 1
  - Railway Union Issues Statement ..... D 1
- Numayri's Extradition Case Postponed Until 12 Aug ..... D 1
- Al-Baz on Sudan's Plans To Review Military Treaty ..... D 1
- AL-AHRAM on Butrus Ghali's Moscow Talks *[2 Jul]* ..... D 1
- Oman's Sultan Qabus Concludes Visit, Departs 8 Jul ..... D 2
- S. Korean Parliamentary Delegation Arrives 3 Jul ..... D 2
- Reportage on Sudan's Al-Mirghani Visit, Talks ..... D 3
  - Meets With 'Abd al-Majid ..... D 3
  - Mubarak Speaks at Banquet ..... D 3
  - Al-Mirghani Delivers Dinner Speech ..... D 4
  - Mubarak on Al-Mirghani, Hart Talks ..... D 5
  - Al-Mirghani on 'Successful' Talks ..... D 5
  - Begins Private Visit ..... D 5
  - Holds Press Conference ..... D 5
  - Mentions Numayri Extradition Case ..... D 6
  - Paper Notes States' 'Differences' ..... D 6
- Sudanese Trade Delegation Arrives 4 Jul ..... D 7
- MENA Cites Interviews With President Mubarak ..... D 7
  - AL-MUSAWWAR Interview ..... D 7
  - AL-AHRAM Interview on Regional Issues ..... D 10

IRAQ

- Tariq 'Aziz Addresses Conference on Gulf War ..... E 1
- Reportage on Combat Operations in Gulf War ..... E 1
  - Communique No 2,283 ..... E 1
  - 'Third' Maritime Target Hit 6 Jul ..... E 2

Maritime Target Hit 7 Jul ..... E 2
New Mehran Offensive Crushed ..... E 2
Six Iranian Divisions Hit ..... E 2
Communique No 2,284 ..... E 3
Commander on Iranian Losses ..... E 3
Air Force Commander on Mehran ..... E 3
Talks Begin With Egyptian Foreign Trade Delegation ..... E 4

JORDAN

Husayn To Resume Iraq-Syria Mediation *[London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT 8 Jul]* ..... F 1
AL-RA'Y Reacts to Decision on PLO Offices *[8 Jul]* ..... F 1
Jordanian Daily on Economic Plan for West Bank *[SAWT AL-SHA'B 8 Jul]* ..... F 1
Press Comments on Occupied Territory Meeting ..... F 1
SAWT AL-SHA'B *[3 Jul]* ..... F 1
AL-DUSTUR *[3 Jul]* ..... F 2
Omani Sultan Qabus Leaves for Cairo 7 Jul ..... F 2

LEBANON

Airport Official Details New Security Measures *[Voice of Lebanon]* ..... G 1
Syrians Prevented From Deploying in Southern Suburb *[Radio Free Lebanon]* ..... G 1
Nasirites Order Strict Security Measures in Sidon *[Voice of the Mountain]* ..... G 1
Amal, Security Forces Clash on AUB Campus *[Radio Free Lebanon]* ..... G 1
AL-NAHAR on Implications of Syrian Entry Into Beirut *[8 Jul]* ..... G 1
Karami on Ministerial Committee Meeting, Security ..... G 2
Phalangist Party Leader on Boycott, Syrians *[Voice of Lebanon]* ..... G 2
'Secret Contacts' To Release French Hostages *[Radio Free Lebanon]* ..... G 3
Sha'ban Receives Iranian Government Delegation ..... G 3
Amal Holds Palestinian, Kidnaps Socialist *[Radio Free Lebanon]* ..... G 3
Resistance Man Killed in Israeli Attack ..... G 3

SYRIA

'Responsible Source' Condemns Madrid Airport Attack ..... H 1
Israeli Claims Denied ..... H 1
Talas Meets Soviet Air Defense Forces Official ..... H 1
Al-Asad Congratulates Reagan on Independence Day ..... H 1
Reportage on Visit of Lebanese Parliamentary Group ..... H 2
Received by Khaddam ..... H 2
Speaker Meets Counterpart ..... H 2
Reportage on Visit of Tunisian Assembly President ..... H 2
Received by Al-Asad ..... H 2
Further on Al-Asad Meeting ..... H 2
Departs 4 July ..... H 2
Reportage on Visit of Cypriot Parliamentary Group ..... H 2
Arrives 6 July ..... H 2
Received by Khaddam ..... H 3
Legislative Talks Begin ..... H 3
Received by Al-Asad ..... H 3
Cypriot Finance Minister Signs Protocol, Departs ..... H 3
Al-Asad Receives Greek Prime Minister's Wife ..... H 4
Khaddam Leaves for Vienna Meeting on Namibia ..... H 4
Ba'th Party Delegation Returns From Warsaw ..... H 4
Majid Abu Salih Named Ambassador to Jordan *[Amman AL-DUSTUR 9 Jul]* ..... H 4
Peres Said To Reveal U.S., Israel Behind Attacks *[AL-BA'TH 4 Jul]* ..... H 4
U.S. Official's Visit to Israeli Settlement Decried ..... H 5
TISHRIN on Syrian, Israeli Roles in Lebanon *[7 Jul]* ..... H 5
On Success of Damascus Agreement ..... H 5

ISRAEL

- Tabah Talks End; Cautious Optimism Expressed ..... I 1
- Further Reportage on Shin Bet Affair, Investigation ..... I 1
  - POST on Moda'i Affidavit *[THE JERUSALEM POST 8 Jul]* ..... I 1
  - Campaign Against Shalom *[HADASHOT 7 Jul]* ..... I 2
  - Shamir Interviewed *[HADASHOT 8 Jul]* ..... I 2
  - Affidavit Submitted ..... I 4
  - Alignment on Shamir Interview ..... I 5
  - Police To Investigate *[HADASHOT 8 Jul]* ..... I 5
- U.S. Smuggling Accusations To Be Investigated ..... I 5
  - Defense Ministry: Claims 'Baseless' ..... I 6
- Austrian President's Inauguartion To Be Boycotted ..... I 6
  - No Congratulations From Herzog ..... I 6
- Knesset, High Court View Convert I.D. Card Issue ..... I 6
- Rabin Denies Report on Imminent POW Exchange *[THE JERUSALEM POST 8 Jul]* ..... I 7
- ASL Soldiers Kill Terrorist 8 July ..... I 7
- Released Terrorist Sentenced for Selling Rifle ..... I 7
- Jewish Underground Members' IDF Service Investigated ..... I 7
- Military Source: 'Only 150' Syrian Troops in Beirut *[THE JERUSALEM POST 9 Jul]* ..... I 7
- Peres: U.S. Agrees To Support Lavi for 6 Months ..... I 7
- Peres: Jordan, Egypt Interested in Marshall Plan *[HA'ARETZ 8 Jul]* ..... I 7
- Al-Ja'bari Backs Down on Hebron Mayoralty ..... I 8
- Soviet Official Says Renewal of Relations Sought *['AL HAMISHMAR 8 Jul]* ..... I 8
- Bulgaria Wants To Strengthen Tourism, Relations *[HADASHOT 7 Jul]* ..... I 8
- Shamir Receives Belize Premier Esquivel ..... I 8
- Shamir: Ties With South Africa 'Reduced' *[HATZOFE 8 Jul]* ..... I 8

NORTH AFRICA

ALGERIA

- FLN Central Committee Discusses Economy ..... Q 1
- Ibrahimi Talks With Omani Foreign Affairs Official ..... Q 1
  - Bendjedid Receives Official 2 Jul ..... Q 1
- PRC Delegation Tours Guelma Province ..... Q 1

LIBYA

- JANA Reports 8 Tunisians Sentenced to Death ..... Q 1
- Arab People's Congress Permanent Secretariat Meets ..... Q 1
- Japanese Official Stresses Support for Libya ..... Q 2
- JANA Editor on Crist Mideast Tour, Anti-Arab Stands ..... Q 2
- Al-Qadhdhafi Shows Diplomats Effects of 'Aggression' ..... Q 2
- Romania's Gison Denounces U.S. Talks During Meeting ..... Q 3
- Further Reportage on Al-'Attas-Al-Qadhdhafi Talks ..... Q 3
  - Al-'Attas Says Meeting 'Useful' ..... Q 3
  - Al-'Attas Describes Talks ..... Q 3
  - Thanks Al-Qadhdhafi on Departure ..... Q 4
  - 'Text' of Libyan-PDRY Communique ..... Q 4
- Al-Qadhdhafi Receives ICO Secretary General ..... Q 5
  - Pirzada Departs Tripoli 6 Jul ..... Q 5
- DPRK Delegation Arrives in Tripoli 6 Jul ..... Q 5

MAURITANIA

- Protocol on Cultural Accord With USSR Signed ..... Q 5
- South Korean Minister Concludes Visit ..... Q 5

MOROCCO

Niger Foreign Minister Arrives 6 Jul on Visit ... Q 6
    Meets With Filali, Comments ... Q 6
Bahraini Defense Minister Arrives on Visit ... Q 6
Transport Minister Confers With Romanian Counterpart ... Q 6

SUDAN

Numayri Guard Arrested on Arrival in Country ... Q 6
Al-Mirghani Discusses Ties With USSR, U.S. ... Q 6
Committee To Regulate Cabinet, Council Coordination ... Q 7
Chevron Company Official on Security in South ... Q 7
SPLA Claims Nile Battalion Blows Up Second Bridge *[Radio SPLA]* ... Q 7
Briefs: Cooperation Protocol With Egypt ... Q 7
    Agreement With FAO

TUNISIA

Bourguiba Replaces Prime Minister Mzali With Sfar ... Q 8
    Discusses Economy With Ministers ... Q 8
    Sfar Makes Statement ... Q 8

WESTERN SAHARA

Communique on Abdelaziz Visit to Congo *[APS]* ... Q 8
'President' Ends African Tour With Talks in Mali *[APS]* ... Q 9

WEST AFRICA

GHANA

Immigrants in Nigeria Advised To Get Jobs ... T 1

LIBERIA

LAP Says Johnson-Sirleaf, Others Arrested ... T 1
Government To Pay $1.7 Million Arrears to ECOWAS ... T 1

MALI

President Traore To Visit USSR 14-19 July ... T 1

NIGERIA

AFP: Government To Boycott Commonwealth Games ... T 1
Babangida Discusses IMF Loan, Unemployment *[BBC World Service]* ... T 1
Akinyemi Receives GUNT's Oueddei, Discusses Peace ... T 2
U.S. Asked To Help Combat Drug Peddling, Abuse ... T 2
CONCORD Favors Military 'Devoid of Politics' ... T 2
Papers Comment on Ban on Former Politicians ... T 3

SOUTHERN AFRICA

ANGOLA

Defense Minister Comments on RSA 'Destabilization' ... U 1

MALAWI

External Affairs Secretary Evaluates RSA Relations *[Johannesburg]* ..... U 1

NAMIBIA

SWAPO Wing Reports RSA Soldiers Killed *[Voice of Namibia]* ..... U 2
Conference on Namibia Opens 7 July in Vienna *[cross-reference]* ..... U 2

SOUTH AFRICA

Winnie Mandela Comments on Ban, Husband's Release *[Umtata]* ..... U 2
Deputy Defense Minister Interviewed on Bombings ..... U 2
Communist Threat to Southern Africa Outlined ..... U 3
COSATU Condemns Johannesburg Meetings Ban ..... U 4
One-Third Striking Kimberley Miners Back at Work ..... U 4
Free State Mines Still Closed by Strike ..... U 4
Press Reviews Current Issues, Problems ..... U 4

ZAMBIA

UK Secretary Howe Arrives to 'Chilly' Welcome *[Umtata]* ..... U 7
    Comments on EEC Representation ..... U 7
Kaunda Receives Saudi Envoy, Comments on Israel ..... U 7

ZIMBABWE

Mugabe Meets Afghan Deputy Foreign Minister ..... U 7

PLO Leader Renews Call for Conference on Mideast

JN031828 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1723 GMT 3 Jul 86

[Text] Brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] has renewed the call for convening an international conference on the Middle East to be attended by all the concerned parties in the region's conflict, including the PLO, the Palestinian people's sole, legitimate representative, and the permanent members of the Security Council.

In a speech delivered on his behalf at the international symposium on the Palestine question, which was organized by nongovernmental organizations and which opened in Vienna yesterday, Brother Abu 'Ammar said that the convocation of this symposium coincides with the organized campaigns to liquidate the Palestinian people and cause and to eliminate the Palestinian role from the Middle East.

Brother Abu 'Ammar said the United States is continuing to extend massive support to the Zionist enemy while denying the Palestinian people their legitimate, inalienable rights. Brother Abu 'Ammar noted the Zionist occupation authorities' campaigns of oppression, torture, detention, and expulsion against our heroic Palestinian people inside the occupied homeland. He affirmed these practices will not weaken our people's determination to continue their national struggle for their legitimate rights.

'Arafat Reacts to Closing of PLO Offices in Jordan

AU072037 Vienna Television Service in German 1930 GMT 7 Jul 86

[Videotaped interview, conducted in English with superimposed German translation, given by PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat to Austrian television reporter Hans Benedikt in Vienna on 7 July; introductory paragraph by moderator Robert Hochner]

[Excerpts] [Hochner] PLO chief Yasir 'Arafat is, somewhat surprisingly, guest of the UN conference on Namibia held currently in Vienna. [Passage omitted] Vienna and, in particular, the UN forum offer 'Arafat the opportunity to improve the battered international reputation of his organization. The events of today showed just how groggy the PLO is. Jordan, recently accused by the PLO of having betrayed the Palestinians' cause, retaliated today by closing 25 PLO offices. Here is the PLO leader's first reaction:

['Arafat] We began to observe and to feel the escalating Jordanian pressure against our people in the Israeli-occupied territories — by strengthening the passage regulations, hindering exports and imports, obstructing our organizations, and canceling previously granted easements. The new Jordanian Constitution and the new election law are completely against the Palestinians and against Arab League resolutions. It makes no difference when they increase the number of deputies to the Jordanian Parliament but the fact that they also take for this representatives of Palestinian refugee camps, which belong to us, creates an extremely critical situation for us. This is against all Arab League resolutions.

[Benedikt] Jordan wants to introduce a 5-year economic plan for Palestinians in the occupied territories. Will that undermine the PLO?
['Arafat] They want to buy the conscience of our people. What a stupid plan that is, just like all Jordanian projects! Nobody can buy the conscience of our Palestinians. No one can buy their resolution, their steadfast efforts for national liberation.

[Benedikt] There is one definition that is of interest to us in Western Europe. It is your definition of what you call legitimate struggle for liberation and what we call terrorism.
['Arafat] Israeli terrorism or American terrorism?

[Benedikt] Let me be more specific....
['Arafat, interrupting] No, I must interrupt you. What terrorism? Israeli terrorism, Israeli state terrorism, or American terrorism?

[Benedikt] Will you let me be more specific?
['Arafat] Yes.

[Benedikt] Well, let me ask you a specific question. There have been two attacks, or attempted attacks, on Israeli civilian airliners in London and Madrid recently, that is, at European airports.
['Arafat] Why do you ask me?

[Benedikt] Who should I ask?
['Arafat] Those who are behind it. Your government here in Austria knows that some secret services are behind it and not the PLO. Why are you trying to confuse the issue and mix up our legitimate struggle, our resistance against occupation, with this terrorist action?

Blames U.S., Israel

AU090912 Vienna KURIER in German 9 Jul 86 p 3

[Heinz Nussbaumer report]

[Excerpts] The news reached Yasir 'Arafat during his stay in Vienna: Jordan's King Husayn had suddenly closed 25 PLO offices and expelled 'Arafat's deputy [stellvertreter]. The PLO leader in a *Kurier* interview: "Jordan is bowing to pressure from America and Israel." [passage omitted]

PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat himself discusses the latest events in an exclusive interview with *Kurier* on Tuesday morning [8 July]: "We have been expecting this — we are expecting even more. We want the situation to quiet down; the Jordanians insist on escalation. All this is happening under pressure from America and Israel. The objective is clear: The Palestinians in the occupied areas are now going to be forced to accept some sort of 'Bantustan' as their homeland like the blacks in South Africa."

During the past few weeks, Jordan had already been taking measures against Palestinians: Trade with the occupied West Bank was limited; Jordanian passports for Palestinians were not renewed. Palestinian students were expelled from Jordan to areas occupied by the Israelis.

Concerning these topics Yasir 'Arafat told *Kurier*: "Is this not a disgrace? Along with the oppression by Israel, the Palestinians are now starting to be oppressed by Jordan also."

King Husayn had ended talks with the PLO leadership about a federation reasoning that the split PLO leadership is not able to achieve peace. [Vienna *Wiener Zeitung* on 9 July on page 4 in a report on the same topic notes that 'Arafat "was also received by former Chancellor Bruno Kreisky yesterday afternoon."]

Salah Khalaf Comments

JN081735 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1630 GMT 8 Jul 86

[Text] Following a meeting held yesterday, the Jordanian Government issued an official statement announcing that it will close most of the PLO offices in the Jordanian capital. The Jordanian Government justified this decision by saying that it is in response to the Fatah Revolutionary Council's statement last June which the Jordanian Government says assailed Jordan's policy toward the Palestinian cause.

On another level, Brother Abu Jihad [Khalil al-Wazir], deputy commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces, announced that the Jordanian Government has given him 48 hours to leave Jordan.

Brother Abu Iyad [Salah Khalaf], a member of the Fatah Central Committee, said the Jordanian Government's decision to close the PLO offices in Jordan has not surprised any of the observers of this government's policy toward the PLO; that is, toward Palestinian national rights. In a statement to Radio Monte Carlo, Abu Iyad said that this Jordanian measure will increase our determination to adhere to our national rights, including the right to self-determination, which we cannot bargain over if some of our offices are closed, if our cadres are expelled from Amman, or if prison doors open to us as we expect will happen soon.

Abu Iyad noted that such a measure is the inevitable result of the Jordanian Government's policy. He said the Jordanian Government is trying to establish an alternative leadership for the Palestinians through which it can circumvent the Palestinian people's right to self-determination and deal with the Zionist entity with the aim of establishing bilateral rule in the West Bank and Gaza.

On another level, Palestinian figures in the West Bank and Gaza have expressed their regret over the closure of 25 PLO offices in Jordan. These figures said that this step will hinder efforts to realize a peaceful solution in the Middle East. Mayors and prominent writers in the West Bank and Gaza said that the decision to close the PLO offices in Jordan is extremely serious and will hinder the chances for peace and increase the difficulties facing the Palestinian people inside the occupied territory. These figures, national institutions, and popular organizations in the occupied territory noted that our Palestinian people must rely on their own resources to acheive their inevitable victory.

Israeli War Minister Yitzhaq Rabin has said that the Jordanian Government's decision to close the PLO offices in Jordan will lead to a reduction in the Palestinian fedayeen activities in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. In a statement over enemy radio last night, Rabin said that this decision is a development in the right direction.

Factions in Syria React

JN081945 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1755 GMT 8 Jul 86

[Louis Faris report from Damacus]

[Text] Palestinian organizations here have commented on the Jordanian Government's decision to close PLO offices in Jordan. However, the official Syrian media have completely ignored these reports. Not a single word appeared on this subject in today's newspapers.

In a statement, the DFLP said that this decision is within the series of measures and steps aimed at underming the PLO's representation of the Palestinian people. The Palestinian Popular Struggle Front said that the decision is a natural outcome following the deterioration in relations between Jordan and 'Arafat's leadership, accusing Jordan of attempting to organize a Palestinian alternative to the PLO.

The PFLP accused Jordan of trying to weaken and cancel the PLO.

All Palestinian organizations here were unanimous in asking the PLO leadership to cancel the Amman agreement, the Cairo Declaration, and all policies that have split PLO unity. They said that this is an inevitable step to open the door to a serious Palestinian national dialogue in order to restore firm PLO unity on a national basis.

Envoy in Cairo Reacts

NC081619 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1535 GMT 8 Jul 86

[Text] Cairo, 8 Jul (MENA) — PLO representative in Cairo Al-Tayyib 'Abd al-Rahim has reacted to the Jordanian Government's decision to close 25 PLO offices in Jordan and expel Khalil al-Wazir, alias Abu Jihad, deputy commander in chief of the Palestinian Revolution forces, from Amman. He described the action as an open notice to all Arab mediators that Jordan's decision to sever relations with the PLO is definitive.

'Abd al-Rahim said that Syria had also sent an open notice in regard to Algerian President Chedli Bendjedid's efforts, rejecting attempts at reconciliation among the Palestinian groups in order to exploit the current situation and undermine the PLO. This was manifest in its attacks on the Palestinian camps in Beirut.

'Abd al-Rahim voiced his opinion that the Jordanian Government's measures did not come as a reaction to the statement issued a month ago by the Fatah Revolutionary Council. He said that the Jordanian measures will not dissuade the Palestinians from rallying around the PLO or make them lose their confidence in their legitimate leaders.

Concluding his statement, 'Abd al-Rahim said that all attempts to replace the PLO with flimsy alternatives or to rob the PLO of legitimate recognition at any forthcoming Arab summit will fail.

PLO Chairman Criticizes Jordanian W. Bank Moves

AU081527 Vienna NEUE AZ in German 8 Jul 86 p 6

[Interview with PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat by correspondents Robert Wiesner and Georg Hoffmann-Ostenhof at "0030 in the morning" on 7 July in Vienna]

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted]

Neue Az: Your alliance with Jordan broke up last year. This tactic has failed. How do you now picture the peace process?

'Arafat: Not failed, bogged down. This mechanism does not work. At the Arab summit in Casablanca we therefore proposed another way, a new mechanism to achieve a peaceful solution: an international conference. This formula is accepted by some European countries, by the nonaligned countries, by the Arab countries, by the Islamic conference, the organization of African states, by all socialist countries; even the United States has accepted the principle of an international Middle East Peace conference in which the five permanent members of the Security Council and all affected parties would participate.

Neue Az: After breaking with the PLO, Jordan has started to take measures against parts of the population in the occupied areas: imposing an economic boycott; not permitting PLO-affiliated Palestinians to enter Jordan; not allowing Jordanian radio stations to report on the West Bank, etc.....

'Arafat: Yes, this is a serious mistake of the Jordanian Government. These measures of oppression strengthen the unity of the Palestinians behind the PLO leadership.

Neue Az: Jordan also tries to mediate. King Husayn wants to bring the enemy countries Syria and Iraq together. What do you think about this?

'Arafat: We are for it, because every little bit of increased Arab unity offers better chances for us. We support everything that strengthens Arab unity. Our cause is a holy cause in the conscience of the entire Arab nation.

Neue Az: But are you not afraid that in case of such an agreement the Palestinians would be used as a mere pawn in the negotiations?

'Arafat: No, we are a hard nut that cannot be cracked so easily.

Neue Az: You are in contact with opposition politicians in Israel. Do you get the impression that it has become easier for the PLO to find partners in Israel?

'Arafat: Without a doubt. We are conducting open talks with the most varied movements in Israel, with all who accept our rights. Progress is slow, but we are making progress. In 1982 there were strong movements in Israel against the war, but they were not very well organized. Now there are many organized forces in Israel with whom we can talk.

Neue Az: There is information that many PLO fighters are returning to Lebanon to protect the refugee camps...

'Arafat: In the agreement with the American special envoy, Habib, it was agreed that PLO fighters could return to visit their relatives. This is done. Nothing more. So far there has been no decision about a return.

Neue Az: Recently you said that the PLO fighters have the right to return in order to protect the camps because the promised protection is not working out.

'Arafat: There are three options: First, an all-Arab contingent could protect the refugee camps. Second, the UN International Forces in Lebanon (UNIFIL) could do that since they are present in southern Lebanon. Third, we ourselves could protect our camps.

Neue Az: So, are you going to return to Lebanon?

'Arafat: I prefer the first or second option.

KUWAIT

Lebanese Envoy Delivers Karami Message for Amir

LD081112 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1000 GMT 8 Jul 86

[Text] At 1000 [0700 GMT] this morning, Shaykh Sa‘d al-Abdallah al-Salim al-Sabah, the heir apparent and chairman of the Council of Ministers, received Samih al-Baba, the director of the Lebanese Foreign Ministry's Political Department, at the cabinet office as an envoy of the Lebanese prime minister. Al-Baba delivered a message to his highness the amir of Kuwait from His Excellency Rashid Karami, the prime minister of the brotherly Republic of Lebanon.

Meets Deputy Premier

LD081249 Kuwait KUNA in English 1202 GM 8 Jul 86

[By Saleh Nazal]

[Text] Kuwait, July 8 (KUNA) — Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir al-Sabah Tuesday received Director of the Lebanese Foreign Ministry's Political Affairs Department Samih al-Baba who is currently visiting Kuwait within the framework of a Gulf tour.

Shaykh Sabah told reporters that a comprehensive review of the situation in Lebanon was made during the meeting.

He added that Al-Baba, dispatched by Lebanese Premier Rashid Karami, has explained latest developments there and asked for the Arab world's assistance to solve Lebanon's problems and to end conflicts among its various sects in preparation for restoring normal life.

The meeting was attended by Lebanese ambassador to Kuwait Adnan Badra.

For his part, Al-Baba said that he met with his highness the crown prince and Premier Shaykh Sa‘d al-‘abdallah al-Salim al-Sabah and conveyed to him a message addressed to his highness the amir from the Lebanese premier.

He added that he discussed with his highness and with Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad Lebanese affairs and means of extricating Lebanon from the present situation.

The envoy affirmed that Kuwait, through his highness the crown prince and prime minister and the deputy premier and foreign minister, has as usual expressed readiness to help restore security and stability to Lebanon.

The Lebanese envoy expressed complete confidence that Kuwait will exert all possible efforts, whether requested or not, in Lebanon, the Arab world, or world arenas to restore security and stability to Lebanon and get Israel out from south Lebanon.

On the pending difference between president and premier in Lebanon on means of ending the conflict there, Al-Baba said that president Amin al-Jumayyil has a different formula from that of Premier Karami and if their speculations were identical there would be no impasse.

He explained that this situation "paralyzes government endeavors and consequently affects the situation in Lebanon in all spheres particularly in the economic and political fields."

AL-ITTIHAD on Tour

GF081620 Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD in Arabic 8 Jul 86 p 1

[Text] A prominent ministerial source in Beirut has revealed to *Al-Ittihad* that the Gulf tour of Ambassador Samih al-Baba, envoy of Prime Minister Rashid Karami, is designed to provide a detailed explanation of the proposed mass resignation by the prime minister and the cabinet. The source stated that the memorandum conveyed by Al-Baba to the GCC leaders was prepared by a commission comprising Karami and the Muslim ministers: Nabih Birri, Walid Junblatt, Salim al-Hus, and ‘Adil ‘Asiran. The source added that the memorandum did not ask for these countries' support to Karami's proposal but aimed to explain the proposal to the GCC leaders with the view to providing a balanced image of the Lebanese situation. The source said that the memorandum "states with facts that the president of the Republic is the prime obstacle to the implementation of the government's ministerial statement, which called for achieving reconciliation on the basis of abolishing political sectarianism and equality among all Lebanese factions."

SAUDI ARABIA

Joint Talks With Jordan Begin in Al-Ta‘if

GF090558 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 0400 GMT 9 Jul 86

[Text] Saudi-Jordanian talks began yesterday at Al-‘Aqiq Palace in Al-Ta‘if. They were chaired by His Majesty King Fahd ibn ‘Abd al-‘Aziz and His Majesty King Husayn ibn Talal of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan.

The talks were attended on the Saudi side by His Royal Highness Prince Sultan ibn ‘Abd al-‘Aziz, second deputy prime minister, defense and aviation minister, and inspector general; His Royal Highness Prince Sa‘ud al-Faysal, foreign minister; Muhammad Ibrahim Mas‘ud, minister of state, member of the Council of Ministers, and acting information minister; and Ibrahim al-Sultan, the Kingdom's ambassador to Jordan. On the Jordanian side, the talks were attended by His Excellency Zayd al-Rifa‘i, prime minister; Marwan al-Qasim, chief of the royal court; Staff General Zayd ibn Shakir, commander in chief of the Jordanian Armed Forces; and Muhammad Rasul al-Kilani, the Jordanian ambassador to the Kingdom.

Railway Traffic Returns 'Completely to Normal'

NC090622 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0600 GMT 9 Jul 86

[Text] Railway traffic throughout the republic has returned completely to normal. Trains to and from Cairo, as well as those along all branch, regional, upper and lower Egypt, and suburb lines are running regularly.

Railway Union Issues Statement

NC081950 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 8 Jul 86

[Text] The General Union of Railway Workers has released a statement expressing deep regret and apologizing to the public in general, and particularly to the railway workers, who are patriotic and concerned about the interests of their country and their fellow citizens, for the incidents arising from emotional behavior. This behavior is irresponsible and contravenes the traditional system of work and respect among railway workers.

The statement says that 90,000 workers belonging to the General Union of Railway Workers reject the method used by a small number of drivers, which offends the struggling workers in the various sections of the railway establishment. These workers condemn the failure of any worker to perform his duty because this affects and jeopardizes the people's interests, and makes them lose confidence in the railway establishment and its workers.

The General Union of Railway Workers urges workers in general and drivers in particular not to allow black marks to mar their clean records and distort their glorious history. It calls on them to hold on to their jobs as they would to their most valuable possession.

The General Union of Railway Workers is the legal channel authorized to discuss their demands and to attend to anything that may affect the drivers' lives and jobs. Officials of all ranks will more than respond to the drivers' material and work needs.

Numayri's Extradition Case Postponed Until 12 Aug

NC081722 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1700 GMT 8 Jul 86

[Text] Cairo, 8 Jul (MENA) — At its session today chaired by Counsellor Muhammad 'Abd al-Hamid, the State Council's Administrative Judiciary Court decided to postpone the extradition hearing of former Sudanese President Ja'far Numayri until 12 August. The court asked the state commissioners to prepare its report on the case.

The Sudanese lawyers, who attended the session together with Egyptian lawyers, asked for the postponement of the hearing on the basis of a cable they received from the Sudanese Government to that effect. The postponement will allow the Sudanese public prosecutor to attend the sessions. Sudanese lawyers, in cooperation with the Egyptian Lawyers Association, filed this case before the court requesting the extradition of Numayri so the Sudanese authorities may try him there.

Al-Baz on Sudan's Plans To Review Military Treaty

NC081532 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1520 GMT 8 Jul 86

[Text] Cairo, 8 Jul (MENA) — Dr Usamah al-Baz, first under secretary at the Foreign Ministry and head of the President's Office for Political Affairs, has stated that if the Sudanese Government prefers to abrogate the Egyptian-Sudanese military treaty, then Egypt has no objection.

Commenting on a statement by Sudanese Prime Minister al-Sadiq al-Mahdi that his government was thinking of reviewing the treaty, Dr al-Baz said that Egypt had not been the one to seek to conclude this treaty.

AL-AHRAM on Butrus Ghali's Moscow Talks

PM081159 Cairo AL-AHRAM INTERNATIONAL EDITION in Arabic 2 Jul 86 p 5

['Abd al-Malik Khalil report: "The Principal Issues Butrus Ghali's Visit to Moscow Dealt With"]

[Text] It can be said without exaggeration that when the doors of the meeting hall on the sixth floor of the Soviet Foreign Ministry closed at 1930 hours on Thursday night 20 June a new and earnest page had begun in Egyptian-Soviet relations. In this hall Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali, accompanied by Ambassador Salah Basyuni, met with Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze, who is also a member of the ruling CPSU Politburo.

To underline the importance of this new page it would suffice to point out that, on the Soviet side, the meeting came after Shevardnadze had in the same evening attended the Politburo meeting under General Secretary Gorbachev.

On the Egyptian side Dr Butrus Ghali's meeting was a summation of the talks and discussions he had had at various levels. Dr Ghali began these by submitting a comprehensive review of Egypt's views of Africa's problem, the review which he delivered in a lecture in French at the opening of the second African-Soviet conference, hosted by the Soviet Academy of Sciences. The conference was attended by Prof Anatoliy Gromyko, Andrei Gromyko's eldest son. Sitting with him on the platform were senior Soviet scientists such as Academicians Fedoseyev and Primakov, Professor V. Vasilyev, and prominent scientists, politicians, and experts on African affairs. This is in addition to the UNESCO representative.

Dr Butrus Ghali held a second meeting with First Deputy Foreign Minister Dr Kuznetsov [as published] during which he discussed African problems and the nonaligned states' role in helping Africa overcome problems of subjugation and backwardness.

Considering the multitudinous views and stances on the issues under discussion and the need for more than just one approach, Dr Butrus Ghali went to the USSR Academy of Sciences' World Economics and International Relations Institute where he met with Academician Primakov and his department's scientists and reseachers.

It must be pointed out here that the USSR Academy of Sciences' World Economics and International Relations Institute and the USSR Academy of Sciences' Africa Institute are not of the type of academies known to the Third World: They are more like complexes consisting of colleges employing a large number of specialists and researchers.

Academician Primakov has been an expert on Arab affairs for more than 25 years and is the author of books on the subject such as *Egypt Under Al-Nasir* and *Analysis of the Middle East Crisis*. Dr Ghali discussed with him Egypt's views on the Middle East crisis, dealing in particular with solutions proposed by the Soviets such as the call for an international conference, the unity of the Arab world, and boosting the Arab countries' defense capabilities.

Dr Butrus Ghali, with a high sense of responsibility as a politician and a scientist, discussed the aforementioned three views and the prospects and difficulties involved. He and Academician Primakov then went on to search for formulas that would give impetus for the Arab peoples' thrust toward liberation and to define points of agreement on the various intellectual, scientific, and practical levels.

For this reason Dr Butrus Ghali's meeting with Shevardnadze was a culmination of these calls which included discussions with diplomats at the Soviet Foreign Ministry and officials of nongovernmental public organizations, such as his meeting with Ivanov, deputy chairman of the association for friendship with foreign countries.

Although the details of the talks between Shevardnadze and Dr Butrus Ghali are unknown and are being analyzed by Egyptian officials, Shevardnadze himself has shown keen interest in what is happening in Egypt. He also expressed to Dr Ghali the Soviet leadership's appreciation of the stances and directions of Egyptian President Husni Mubarak's leadership. Shevardnadze expressed this appreciation on behalf of General Secretary Gorbachev. In his talks with Shevardnadze Dr Ghali concentrated on the following points:

First, Egypt calls for stronger ties of friendship and understanding with the Soviet Government. Egypt in this regard is acting from a clear and defined "political will."

Second, Egypt believes in the need for consultation with the Soviet Union, and also that such consultations serve more the interest of peace than it serves Egypt's interest or the Soviet Union's interest because Egypt wants peace not only in the Middle East but also throughout the world.

Third, he explained Egypt's stand on the Middle East problem, which is one of support for the Palestinian people's legitimate rights, citing in particular the efforts being made by Egyptian diplomacy in this regard.

Egypt also put forward for discussion various methods of solving the Middle East problem peacefully. One of these methods is what the Soviet Union is calling for, namely the convening of an international conference. Egypt has no objection to an international conference provided efforts are channeled toward achieving it.

In summary, Dr Ghali's visit was not confined to diplomatic discussions but also included discussions involving centers of intellect, political decisionmakers, the ruling party and influential forces, and officials of nongovernmental mass organizations.

In his lecture at the USSR Academy of Sciences' Africa Institute Dr Ghali stressed the following points:

1. Struggle against colonialism insofar as there can be no peaceful coexistence between peace and colonialism and apartheid.
2. Resolving disputes between African states peacefully and within an African framework without foreign interference.
3. Pan-African cooperation in tackling economic backwardness.
4. Africa has nothing to do with the cold war, and a commitment to the policies and principles of nonalignment is a must.
5. The need to preserve and defend the United Nations and the rest of the specialized organizations such as the OAU.

Thus Dr Butrus Ghali's visit, being the first in 10 years by a Foreign Ministry official, was successful; it is bound to be followed up by various other visits, and its outcome is bound to be translated into true and realistic steps by the decisionmakers both in Cairo and Moscow.

Oman's Sultan Qabus Concludes Visit, Departs 8 Jul

NC081045 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1030 GMT 8 Jul 86

[Text] Cairo, 8 Jul (MENA) — His Majesty Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id of Oman left Cairo this morning at the end of a 1-day private visit.

He was seen off at the airport by President Muhammad Husni Mubarak; Prime Minister Dr 'Ali Lutfi; Field Marshal Muhammad 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah, deputy prime minister and minister of defense and war production; Dr Kamal al-Janzuri, deputy prime minister and minister of planning and international cooperation; Dr Yusuf Wali, deputy prime minister and minister of agriculture and food security; and Information Minister Safwat al-Sharif.

Also there to see him off were Dr Usamah al-Baz, first under secretary at the foreign ministry and head of the President's Office for Political Affairs, and Dr Mamduh al-Biltaji, head of the Public Information Authority.

S. Korean Parliamentary Delegation Arrives 3 Jul

NC032025 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1630 GMT 3 Jul 86

[Text] Cairo, 3 Jul (MENA) — A South Korean National Assembly delegation arrived in Cairo from Madrid tonight. The delegation, led by National Assembly speaker (Chang Hong-yo), is on a private 3-day visit to Egypt.

Reportage on Sudan's Al-Mirghani Visit, Talks

Meets With 'Abd al-Majid

NC031641 Cairo MENA in English 1445 GMT 3 Jul 86

[Text] Cairo, July 3 (MENA) — The relations between Egypt and Sudan are long-standing, Dr. 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, deputy premier and foreign minister, said here today. He expressed Egypt's happiness to receive Ahmad al-Mirghani, chairman of the Sudanese Sovereignty Council.

The official talks between the Egyptian and Sudanese leaders will start on Saturday on bilateral, Arab and international issues 'Abd al-Majid pointed out in a statement following a meeting between the two leaders today. The integration between Egypt and Sudan is natural as are the strong ties linking the two countries, 'Abd al-Majid said in his statement.

'Abd al-Majid refused to comment on a question on Sudan's conception of the Egyptian-Sudanese-Libyan relations, but added Egypt's relations with Sudan are special and that no country has the right to interfere in them. The deputy premier and foreign minister pointed out that Egypt's differences with Libya are known.

Replying to a question on whether a Sudanese initiative for the restoring of the Arab solidarity will be discussed during the talks, 'Abd al-Majid said there was no official confirmation. He further termed the Egyptian-Ethiopian relations as good, adding that Egypt does not hesitate in cooperating with Ethiopia to put an end to the problem of the south in Sudan.

Mubarak Speaks at Banquet

NC032146 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1906 GMT 3 Jul 86

[Speech by President Muhammad Husni Mubarak at a dinner banquet hosted in honor of Sudanese State Council Chairman Ahmad 'Uthman al-Mirghani at Al-Qubbah Palace on 3 July — recorded]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Dear Brother Ahmad al-Mirghani; dear brothers: We welcome all of you to your country. You are among kinsfolk and clan. With sincere love and affection we welcome you, our dedicated brothers and our loyal companions in the march on the road toward honor and dignity. You are our faithful partners, sharing the same objectives and destiny and standing in the same trench with us in all our battles for the sake of right, freedom, and peace.

We have always believed that the relationship between our two peoples in this noble valley is an immortal and eternal one, splendidly created by the supreme divine providence. Our people, united along the banks of the Nile, have established this relationship on the basis of fundamental and unshakable principles. These will never be affected by the passage of time, nor can any human being tamper with them. This is particularly true in light of the fact that this relationship first and foremost reflects a unity of principles and not just a series of intermingled interests. It is a relationship based on blood ties, identical values and traditions, and harmonious feelings and aspirations. It is a relationship transcending all distresses and inclinations. It stands as a solid rock and a lofty edifice against which all the spears of enemies and malicious people scatter. It is a relationship which embodies all the aspirations of the honest and faithful.

We view this relationship from an angle of mutual respect, complete frankness, faith in common interests, and the belief that it is impossible for any contradictory goals and objectives to exist. No matter how much our style or patterns may vary, our relationship will not be affected. This is the nature of life among members of the same family.

Therefore, dear brother, these unique ties are above all constitutional forms and all legal formulas. They represent a relationship based on substance and not formality. They express a living fact that exists in our consciences and souls and not just an ideal that we are eager to achieve. This relationship is based on firm strategic considerations, which have enormous historical, geographical, and cultural dimensions. This puts it in a special category which is rarely found on an international level. Just as this link was strong and firm in the past, so it will remain now and in the future. We are confronted with the same fateful and wild challenges in our attempts to wage a battle for comprehensive social and economic development.

The changes difficult economic circumstances have brought to life throughout our fertile Nile Valley imposes on us the need for sacrifice and great effort.

Your brothers in Egypt believe that your success in confronting the basic challenges you face with regard to consolidating the national and regional unity of dear Sudan, dealing with economic problems, and continuing the development process is an achievement in which every Egyptian can take pride. This success adds to our own achievements and opens the way to a better future for all the Nile Valley's sons.

On the larger Arab level, our two countries must try to revive a spirit of genuine solidarity among all the people of the Arab nation, eliminate the division and fragmentation which is paralyzing their march and jeopardizing their role in both the regional and international spheres, and pave the way for effective action that will gain the respect and support of the world. This action must be based on a commitment to the rights and basic interests of the Arab nation and on raising the banner of peace.

Our broader African obligations are rooted in a belief that the struggle of all African peoples is one. Our commitment acknowledges the fact that our honorable African brothers have sincerely and faithfully stood by us in all our battles. They have proven to be our greatest allies and most noble friends. Their stands have not changed with the passage of time, nor have they ever hesitated to give whatever the price. Therefore, we emphasize our firm commitment to support our brothers in the southern part of our glorious continent who are struggling against racial discrimination, exploitation, and intimidation. We regard support for their struggle as a matter of principle. It should never be reliquished or harmed.

Dear brothers, we take pride in this visit by our friend. He is one of the noble sons of the Nile Valley. The sons of the Nile Valley have always adhered to their affiliation and principles and have remained loyal to their homeland and nation, a loyalty based on a perception of what is their right, their interests, their present, and their future. They have set a good example; they exhibit the natural genuineness found in the sons of our glorious valley.

Brothers, allow me to ask that you stand and greet Brother Chairman Ahmad al-Mirghani and the fraternal sons of dear Sudan who are present here. Let us salute the immortal and fateful ties which exist between the sons of our one people in the north and the south. May God grant us all success. May God's peace, mercy, and blessings be upon you.

Al-Mirghani Delivers Dinner Speech

NC040530 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 3 Jul 86

[Speech by Ahmad 'Uthman al-Mirghani, chairman of the Sudanese State Council, at a dinner banquet hosted by President Husni Mubarak at Al-Qubbah Palace in Cairo on 3 July — recorded]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Dear Brother Husni Mubarak, president of the sisterly Republic of Egypt; Mr Speaker of the People's Assembly; Mr Prime Minister; Mr Speaker of the Consultative Council; deputy prime ministers; brother ministers; and dear guests: Peace and the mercy and blessings of God be with you.

It gives me pleasure to meet with such a distinguished audience in the blessed land of Egypt. It is a privilege to be able to convey to you and to the dear people of Egypt all the love and gratitude of your brothers in Sudan. We meet today with the great hope of revitalizing bonds which have never grown weak or loose. Our two peoples have been linked together throughout history by kinship, friendship, and a common struggle. We share the same road, the same goals, and the same destiny. Our peoples have always cherished these ties and nurtured them for the sake of their common interest.

As we meet here, a new era of freedom, democracy, and justice is dawning in Sudan. Our country has completed the task of establishing constitutional institutions. This was accomplished through free and fair elections, which serve to further prove the historical and cultural mettle of our people and their belief in democracy. These elections are a source of pride for the Sudanese people. They received praise from the rest of the world. They expressed the will and the desire of the Sudanese people to establish a democratic life free from oppression and despotism. This was the aim of the glorious April uprising, an epic of bravery and sacrifice in the history of Sudan. The fact that the uprising ended with the Armed Forces' handing the government over to the people is indicative of our people's determination to live in a stable, safe, and peaceful country. We have a firm belief in the right of our people to lead a dignified life under a democratic system that acknowledges human rights and that safeguards cultural, racial, and religious plurality. We seek to create a single cohesive nation that is as proud of being Arab as it is of its African roots.

Your Excellency, Mr President, dear brothers: As we enter into this new era of Sudanese history, we look forward to a bright future with confidence and optimism, a future where the Sudanese people will be able to achieve their aspirations and surmount, God willing, the suffering and setbacks of the past. We look forward to creating a society where the Sudanese people will be able to improve their standard of living through their own efforts and with the help of brothers and friendly countries.

We are trying to begin this blessed phase in our history by establishing a new basis of understanding and mutual respect in our relations with other countries. In this regard, Sudan is paying particular attention to the maintenance of its traditions of good-neighborliness, its regional and international obligations, and its commitment to the principles of nonalignment. Sudan also affirms its firm support to Arab democracy, to Palestinian rights, and to the struggle of Africans against injustice and apartheid.

As we try to overcome the troubled legacy of the ousted regime, we look forward to playing an active role in confronting the problems facing the Arab nation, Africa, and the world. We are determined to spare no effort in tackling our country's deteriorating economy through the efforts of our people and with the help of friendly and brotherly countries. We will also take great pains to find a political settlement to the problem of the south, which remains a penetrating wound in our country. This will be done in a democratic way to safeguard security and stability in our country yet not sacrifice its national unity.

The tasks we face in Sudan are hard but not impossible. We are determined to do what it takes to get them done, so help us God.

Mr President, dear brothers: Throughout its struggle Sudan has appreciated the role played by sisterly Egypt, which has never been reluctant to help and support us. On behalf of the Sudanese people, I again express our appreciation for Egypt's support to us in all fields. I also pledge that under the new democratic rule in Sudan, we will work together to strengthen our historic and unalterable relations, to preserve the special status of these relations, to impart a popular dimension to our ties, and to develop our common interests. We in Sudan have affirmed more than once that our goal is to establish good relations with all countries and to free these relations from any drawbacks associated with the era of the defunct regime.

Mr President, dear brothers: I was impressed, as were the members of my accompanying delegation, with the true cordiality and hospitality you have accorded us. I am confident that our talks will touch upon all issues of interest to our fraternal peoples and that they will result in the understanding and cooperation needed to serve our common goals.

Once more I thank you for everything. I implore God Almighty to guide you in your efforts to achieve progress for beloved Egypt. May God help us all to serve our countries and our Arab and Islamic nations. Peace and the mercy and blessings of God be with you. [applause]

Mubarak on Al-Mirghani, Hart Talks

NC051244 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1045 GMT 5 Jul 86

[Text] Cairo, 5 Jul (MENA) — President Muhammad Husni Mubarak met with Ahmad 'Uthman al-Mirghani, chairman of the Sudanese State Council, at Al-Qubbah Palace today. After the meeting, Mubarak described relations between Egypt and Sudan as long-standing, durable, and permanent. They are, said the president, everlasting in every sense. Neither I nor anyone else can cut them short, and there is absolutely nothing to mar their course.

President Mubarak added that he and the Sudanese leader examined various aspects of bilateral relations, and pointed out that there is nothing new to say. The ties between Egypt and Sudan are good, Mubarak explained. They outlive individuals, as both countries are linked by a single artery.

President Mubarak was asked if he intends to visit Sudan in the near future. He replied by saying there are no problems connected with such a trip, and he could visit at the time of his choosing.

On his talks today with U.S. Senator Gary Hart, Mubarak said they discussed cooperation between Egypt and the United States and American economic aid to Egypt. We are asking them to take prompt action in order to lower the interest rates charged on our debt and thus lessen our debt service. We are also demanding that the agreements reached during the Egyptian economic delegation's recent visit to the United States be implemented swiftly.

President Mubarak emphasized that visiting U.S. congressmen have a good understanding of Egypt's points of view. We have many friends in the U.S. Congress, Mubarak concluded.

Al-Mirghani on 'Successful' Talks

NC051301 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1200 GMT 5 Jul 86

[Text] Cairo, 5 Jul (MENA) — Speaking to journalists following his talks with President Husni Mubarak today, Sudan's State Council Chairman Ahmad al-Mirghani said that the leaders of both Egypt and Sudan are very anxious to strengthen the ties between the two peoples of the Nile Valley so as to bring prosperity to the valley.

Al-Mirghani pointed out that his visit to Egypt is in response to an invitation from His Excellency President Mubarak and that it is taking place in an atmosphere of friendship and cordiality. He added that today's talks with President Mubarak were very successful. President Mubarak, Al-Mirghani said, looks upon Sudan with admiration and appreciation and gives it his particular attention. Egyptian-Sudanese relations are everlasting and self-renewing, we are trying to develop and enhance them.

The Sudanese State Council chairman was questioned on his talks with President Mubarak and asked whether their views on the subjects discussed had corresponded. He said that the talks had been extremely successful. The points of view expressed had been similar on some matters and identical on others. He hoped that the two fraternal peoples would both benefit.

On his visit to Saudi Arabia, Al-Mirghani said that it had been highly successful. His Majesty King Fahd Ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz of Saudi Arabia had shown great interest in Sudan.

Asked about the problem of the south, Al-Mirghani said that a constitutional conference would be held on the issue. He expressed the hope that the problem would be solved peacefully and democratically.

Speaking about the Sudanese democratic experience and its effects on Third World countries and the Arab motherland, the Sudanese State Council chairman said that its effects were good.

Begins Private Visit

NC061132 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 6 Jul 86

[Text] Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, has described the atmosphere that has prevailed during the visit to Egypt by Ahmad al-Mirghani, chairman of the Sudanese State Council, as excellent. Dr 'Abd al-Majid noted that the talks between Egypt and Sudan were good. He added that the visit has been extremely positive and indicative of the fine relations between the two countries.

Ahmad al-Mirghani began a private visit to Egypt today after completing his official itinerary. His excellency was seen off at Al-Qubbah Palace by President Muhammad Husni Mubarak and other senior state officials. Egypt's distinguished guest was accorded an official ceremony to mark his departure.

Holds Press Conference

NC061211 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1030 GMT 6 Jul 86

[Excerpts] Cairo, 6 Jul (MENA) — Speaking at a press conference at Al-Qubbah Palace today, Sudan's State Council Chairman Ahmad al-Mirghani said that integration [between Egypt and Sudan] will take a new form, in the interests of the two fraternal peoples, and that Egyptian-Sudanese relations are progressing well. He added: My acceptance of His Excellency President Husni Mubarak's invitation is a confirmation of this.

The press conference started with a statement by Ahmad al-Mirghani in which he said: I am pleased to welcome you to this meeting, and to tell you that I had several separate meetings with His Excellency Brother President Husni Mubarak, characterized by understanding, clarity, and cordiality. We discussed all issues of interest to the two fraternal countries, to our Arab and Islamic nation, and to African countries. Our views on all the matters we dealt with were identical.

Al-Mirghani said that he had told President Mubarak about the new democratic conditions in Sudan and the situation resulting from the expression of the Sudanese nation's will through free elections. He added: I briefed his excellency on our serious efforts to restore all aspects of life to normal in the new Sudan. He noted that Sudan had inherited a heavy burden from the defunct regime, notably an economy that is suffering from numerous difficulties, desertification, and a fierce civil war in the south. He hoped that current attempts to lead the country to safety, through its own efforts and the help of brothers and friends, would be successful.

Al-Mirghani said that his meetings with President Mubarak dealt with ways of strengthening the eternal relations between the two countries. He described these ties as everlasting and unique, having their roots deep in history. He added that Sudan believes in popular integration between the two countries and is seeking to continue and strengthen the eternal relations between the peoples of the Nile Valley, to their mutual benefit. He thanked President Mubarak and the great Egyptian people for the reception accorded him.

Ahmad al-Mirghani then replied to questions from journalists and news agency correspondents. Asked about his concept of bilateral relations, and whether there is a new formulation for integration on a revised basis, the Sudanese leader said: We in Sudan are very enthusiastic about integration, advancing Sudanese-Egyptian relations, and boosting them. A committee has been formed in Khartoum to discuss some of the problems of integration. It will submit its conclusions in a comprehensive report, which will be completed soon. In light of the report's recommendations, whatever is in the interests of the two fraternal peoples will be done.

Replying to a question on whether there are any new developments in the problem of the south, he said that a constitutional conference is scheduled to be held. He went on to say: I have repeatedly called on the south to attend his conference with open hearts and minds and without any preconditions. He expressed the hope that the problem of the south would finally be solved.

Regarding the visit by Sudan's Prime Minister al-Sadiq al-Mahdi to the Soviet Union in mid-July, Al-Mirghani said that the visit is in response to a Soviet invitation extended to a high-level Sudanese delegation. A date has been set for this visit. Talks will deal with bilateral relations and the possibility of the Soviet Union supplying some of Sudan's needs.

Replying to a question on whether Egypt could play a larger role with regard to the problem of the south, the Sudanese leader said: Undoubtedly, Egypt can help a great deal by cooperating with Sudan in solving this problem.

Asked whether this cooperation should take the form of negotiations with Ethiopia or the supply of weapons to the Sudanese Army, Al-Mirghani said he believes that both kinds of assistance are welcome. He added: Military aid both supports the Sudanese Army and protects democracy and independence in Sudan. He stressed that these weapons are not used for any other purpose.

Replying to a question on whether Sudan will mediate between Egypt and Libya at the present time, Al-Mirghani said: I would be pleased to see an improvement in relations between Egypt and Libya, but there are no plans for Sudan to mediate just now. Asked about the nature of the relationship between Sudan and Libya, and whether protocols had been signed, Al-Mirghani said that Sudanese-Libyan relations were frozen under the defunct regime, and are now brotherly. He added that no agreement had been signed with Libya regarding the Nile River waters. The only development is that Libya is making a financial contribution to a project to improve the capital's water supply. There is a trade protocol between the two countries, according to which Libya gives petrol to Sudan in return for Sudanese meat and some agricultural produce.

In answer to a question, he stated that relations between Sudan and the United States are good.

Asked whether the dialogue between north and south [Sudan] will result in a constitutional conference being held, which will lead to a solution to the problem of the south, he only replied: Yes.

Al-Mirghani was asked whether the visit to Sudan of an Iranian envoy had anything to do with a Sudanese initiative to end the Gulf war. He replied that it did not.

Mentions Numayri Extradition Case

NC061411 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 6 Jul 86

[Excerpt] Ahmad al-Mirghani, chairman of the Sudanese State Council, held a press conference at the Republican Palace in Al-Qubbah this morning at the end of his official visit to Egypt.

Speaking about former Sudanese President Ja'far Numayri, Al-Mirghani said: The Sudanese Lawyers Association has filed a suit in the Egyptian courts for Numayri's extradition. Our public prosecutor has handed the documentation for the case to the Egyptian Government, and he will attend the hearing when the date is set. The Egyptian and Sudanese Governments will abide by the verdict of the Egyptian judiciary.

Paper Notes States' 'Differences'

NC060722 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0640 GMT 6 Jul 86

[Text] Cairo, 6 Jul (MENA) — *Al-Akhbar* stresses that the current visit by Sudan's State Council Chairman Ahmad al-Mirghani to Egypt, the aim of which is to strengthen relations between the two Nile Valley countries, does not mean that relations between Egypt and Sudan have cooled. Rather, it means that bilateral relations are to be established on new bases in view of the new phase in Sudan, following the glorious April uprising and the start of a new democratic era led by representatives chosen by the Sudanese people.

In its editorial today, the paper refers to differences between the Egyptian and Sudanese viewpoints on some issues. It expresses the hope that the Sudanese brothers will put these unsubstantial differences aside and take action to achieve greater cooperation between the two countries, in the interests and to the benefit of both peoples.

Al-Akhbar also refers to the issue of former Sudanese President Ja'far Numayri. It says that Egypt's view on Numayri's asylum is logical, as is its position that to extradite him to Sudan would contradict our principles and constitution.

The paper welcomes the Sudanese regime's attempts to improve and strengthen relations with all countries without exception. It says: Egypt is willing to exert all efforts to contribute to the strengthening of the situation in Sudan and the furtherance of the fraternal Sudanese people's interest.

Sudanese Trade Delegation Arrives 4 Jul

NC041629 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 4 Jul 86

[Text] Muhammad Yusuf Abu Harirah, Sudanese minister of trade, supply, and economy, and his accompanying delegation arrived in Cairo this morning on a visit scheduled to last several days. A protocol on bilateral economic and trade cooperation will be signed by Dr Sultan Abu 'Ali, minister of economy and foreign trade, and Abu Harirah. The protocol deals with a 220 million pound transaction and seeks to encourage the development of trade exchange between the two countries. It also follows up on the achievements of the joint Egyptian-Sudanese committee session held in Khartoum last February.

MENA Cites Interviews With President Mubarak

AL-MUSAWWAR Interview

NC022144 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1500 GMT 2 Jul 86

[Text] Cairo, 2 Jul (MENA) — President Husni Mubarak has emphasized there can be no solution to the Middle East problem until the current state of disintegration among Arabs is ended and certain Arab parties cease their efforts to create disunity among the ranks of the Palestinian people and the PLO.

President Mubarak doubts whether Arabs are really interested in finding a solution to the Palestinian problem. He adds: With the exceptions of Egypt, Jordan, and the PLO, it is difficult to find any Arab party which is eager to discover a just and durable solution to the Palestinian issue. Some parties are more interested in the establishment of a submissive Palestinian organization that would become a substitute for the PLO. Other parties want to replace PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat with a more lenient leadership.

In an interview with Cairo's *Al-Musawwar* magazine, scheduled for publication this Friday, President Mubarak emphasized Egypt's opposition to any attempt to change the Palestinian leadership. It is up to the Palestinian people alone to decide that he should be replaced. No other Arab party can make such a decision.

President Mubarak also disclosed that he had recently sent several suggestions to 'Arafat in a bid to narrow the differences between Jordan and the PLO. He hoped that he would receive a positive reply from 'Arafat.

Responding to a question, President Mubarak expressed his belief that there was no reason to hope that the current state of Arab disorder would be ended in the near future. He noted that Arabs were not even able to meet and discuss their differences, despite the enormous difficulties facing the Arab world. The Arab League has been unable to hold a single meeting, he added, even in the face of serious problems. The only explanation for this state of affairs is that some Arab countries believe that continued disintegration will best serve their own narrow interests.

Referring to the Tabah problem, President Mubarak said that some progress had been made toward its resolution recently. He expressed his confidence that the issue of arbitration would soon be settled.

Responding to a question about a compromise submitted by the Americans to resolve Egyptian-Israeli differences over Tabah, President Mubarak stated that there can be no compromise as far as the Tabah issue is concerned. He added: Tabah is Egyptian, and all maps, historical evidence, and events prove this fact. Therefore, there can be no compromise on the fate of Tabah. President Mubarak noted, however, that the Americans are now trying to bring the views regarding the question to be referred to the arbitrators closer together.

President Mubarak announced that he is planning a trip to the United States. This visit, he added, will take place after Egyptian-U.S. consultations on the topics which were raised during the recent visits to Washington by Field Marshal Muhammad 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah, deputy prime minister and minister of defense and war production, and by an Egyptian economic delegation begin to bear fruit. After such exchanges, a subsequent visit may then be able to achieve tangible results. Mubarak expressed his belief that in the wake of the recent talks in Washington the Americans are now moving toward a settlement of the issue of modifying the interest rate on old military debts to equal the current international rate. The Egyptian request is reasonable, he noted, in light of the fact that interest rates at the time the contracts for the military loan were concluded were high. Since 1981, he added, military loans have become grants.

President Mubarak said that dealing with the United States necessitates a continual dialogue with the U.S. Administration, the House of Representatives, the Senate, and various lobbies. This is a prerequisite for dealing with a superpower that has its own style of decisionmaking.

Commenting on reports that the IMF has advised Egypt to go to the Club of Paris [Nadi Baris] to hold negotiations with creditors for rescheduling Egyptian debts, President Mubarak stated that Egypt will only accept what it deems to be good for its own interests. The IMF can say whatever it likes. President Mubarak expressed his belief that Egypt will not go to the Club of Paris since it has so far not encountered any great difficulties in its negotiations with creditor states. He added: We would rather conduct bilateral negotiations with each [creditor] state for the rescheduling of debts than go to the Club of Paris.

Responding to those who call for a reduction in the military budget, President Mubarak emphasized that Egypt's independence and progress are directly related to the capabilities of its army. Egypt's security and safety first and foremost are related to the ability of its Armed Forces to act as a deterrent. If they are successful, then those who bear ill will may think twice before they attempt any act of aggression. He added: We cannot look forward to establishing peace with the powerful unless we have a strong combat capability.

President Mubarak expressed his great astonishment at the calls for a reduction in Egypt's military budget. Some Egyptians have even responded to such calls. He noted that they were first adopted by a number of pro-Israelis who hoped that Israel would remain the only superior power in the region. Mubarak continued: This may serve Israeli interests, but I do not believe that it can possibly serve Egyptian interests. That is why I am so astonished at such strange and urgent calls for a reduction in military expenditure. It cannot bear any further reduction. President Mubarak affirmed that there has already been a big cut in Egypt's military budget if one compares the current budget with that existing before the October war. This reduction has reached the point where it is no longer possible to cope with increasing arms prices. As an example, Mubarak noted that a warplane which used to cost $700,000 a few years ago now costs $23 million and sometimes even $30 million if additional facilities are included. He added: Israel now has thousands [as received] of F-15's which cost $55 million each.

Pesident Mubarak then referred to recently published reports appearing in Egyptian opposition papers to the effect that commissions in the deal for Canadian Buffalo transport planes which Egypt purchased 2 years ago have reached $12 million. No Egyptian party is involved in this issue, he emphasized. The case only concerns the manufacturing company and certain other London-based companies in charge of selling the Canadian products in the international arms market. Mubarak said that the procedures for the purchase of weapons in Egypt are very complicated and require a number of guarantees. There are several committees responsible for following up the procedures involved in such deals, he added, and each committee includes more than 20 experts.

President Mubarak emphasized that Egypt had concluded the deal for the Canadian transport planes because it was one of the best offers submitted. He noted that the Egyptian Armed Forces had been the first to act when the commission issue was brought to their knowledge. Nevertheless, he added, Egyptian opposition papers have insisted on publishing incomplete and inaccurate reports on this case.

Commenting further on the purchase of Canadian-built Buffalo transport planes 2 years ago, President Mubarak said: We bought these planes through a distributing company which handles the products of the Canadian manufacturer. A dispute emerged between the producing and distributing companies. We thought that something had happened. It later transpired that a percentage of the commission had been paid to the foreign distributing company. Officials in the Egyptian Armed Forces were the first to ask the Canadian company to submit a complete explanation as to the size of the commission and the names of the beneficiaries, the president added. It was requested that the company deduct the amount of comission from the total price of the deal. However, the Canadian company informed us that it was still investigating the matter.

President Mubarak continued: The Egyptian Armed Forces responded by halting a $4 million payment, which represented the value of the spare parts for these planes. The Egyptian Armed Forces have insisted on being repaid another $8 million if it is proved that a commission worth this amount was actually paid to the distributing company.

President Mubarak asked: Whose interest does poisoning the atmosphere for new generations serve? These generations have lost confidence in their homeland because the opposition is telling them that Egypt has become a cradle for corruption. The opposition is fully aware that we will never remain idle vis-a-vis the corruption of any person regardless of his status.

President Mubarak reiterated that the civilian work which certain units of the Armed Forces are currently undertaking does not affect the combat formation of our forces. These units have been mobilized for public service independent of the Armed Forces as a whole. President Mubarak praised the civilian work which these units are completing in record time and with minimal expense. He pointed to the Armed Forces' cooperation in the renovation of the Cairo telephone network.

President Muabrak added: This unjustified criticism of the role of the Armed Forces in serving our society is designed to meet the interests of those who wanted to do this work instead of the civilian service in order to make tremendous profit.

Reacting to the calls made by some people for reducing the huge number of conscripts, President Mubarak said: It is not true that we maintain 800,000 conscripts. This would entail a cost beyond our capabilities. For some time now the Armed Forces have been thinking of reducing the number of conscripts. It must depend more on quality, particularly since technological developments in weapons have reached the stage where a special caliber of soldier is required.

Asked why he had not yet appointed a vice president, President Mubarak replied that such an appointment would not mean a bequeathal of the presidency. The people have the right to enjoy full democratic practice in Egypt. He added: In all candidness I say that if I ever do choose a vice president, then he will be my deputy. The appointment of a vice president should not be taken to imply heredity. President Mubarak emphasized that there was no problem with regard to appointing a vice president. He simply has not yet chosen a person whom he will present to the people as his deputy. He noted that there is no constitutional stipulation that a vice president must be appointed. The constitution, the president added, establishes a different set of rules for inheritance.

Regarding the concept of a presidential advisory commission to assist him in handling his duties, President Mubarak said that he does not want any commission to be formed which might some day develop enough influence to become a center of power itself. The president affirmed that he does not want to erect a barrier that would prevent him from having direct contact with the people or from solving their problems and concerns. He noted that he already consults a number of advisers about all sorts of problems; however, this does not mean that an advisory commission is needed.

Touching on calls for amending the Egyptian constitution, President Mubarak said that this is not among Egypt's current priorities. Any move in this direction, the president added, would pave the way for deep differences in opinion over basic issues which are still in dispute among the political powers in Egypt. Free education is one example.

President Mubarak reiterated that he does not seek power or authority. He said: If there are some people who think I am not considering amending the constitution because I wish to safeguard the article which deals with extending the presidential term, then I say to these people that I will be the first to change this article when the time comes for amending the constitution.

President Mubarak added: I often ask myself how many people can shoulder the responsibilities of the presidency for one or two terms under the extremely difficult circumstances through which our Third World is passing.

Reacting to reports about a possible cabinet reshuffle before the NDP Congress convenes on 23 July, President Mubarak stated: I believe that an official should remain in office long enough for his accomplishments to be judged. I am not an advocate of changing people every few months. President Mubarak noted that one factor leading to decreased efficiency in the Egyptian administration was the fact that the minister in charge did not spend enough time in his office to allow him to understand what was happening in his ministry.

President Mubarak affirmed that the current Egyptian Government was working under difficult economic conditions and doing its utmost to confront severe difficulties. I do not believe that performance would change all that much under these circumstances if we were to replace one person or ministry, he added.

When told that some people anticipated wide-scale arrests in the wake of recent cases of sabotage during which video clubs in Cairo were deliberately set on fire and an accusing finger had been pointed at members of the Al-Jihad Organization, President Mubarak emphasized that no one should expect a campaign of arrests similar to that of September 1981.

President Mubarak affirmed: I do not arrest people. I do not make mass arrests and I suspect no one. If I had wanted to arrest everybody — as happened in September 1981 — then the incidents involving the Central Security Forces would have provided an opportunity and a justification for me to do so. However, I did not respond in this manner. I profoundly believe that Egypt must complete its democratic march despite difficulties, despite one-upmanships, and despite the recklessness of certain young men in these groups who imagine themselves to be bigger than they really are.

President Husni Mubaraki added: We enforced the emergency law in order to arrest a number of people against whom there was evidence indicating their inolvement in these [word indistinct] actions. They are now being investigated. There have been full confessions.

President Muabrak affirmed that the law will deal with anyone who participated, engineered, or implemented these operations. However, we do not suspect anyone. The state has the right to enforce the emergency law to safeguard Egypt's security against the wave of violence and extremism aimed at the entire region and to protect Egypt's democratic system, he added.

President Mubarak expressed his belief that the entire matter is limited to the extremist Al-Jihad Organiztion, which only encompasses a few hundred youths.

He noted that a majority of the people accused of involvement in the recent acts of sabotage were members of the Al-Jihad Organization who had been arrested following the assassiantion of the late President Anwar al-Sadat but eventually released for lack of evidence. The judiciary suspected that their written confessions had been obtained under duress and (?released them). They have now returned to play the same role again.

President Mubarak emphasized that all the rights of the accused are guaranteed and that he has given clear instructions to the departments concerned to treat them well.

President Mubarak said that fanaticism exists throughout the entire region. He added: It is on the rise in Israel and it exists in several Arab states. However, certain Arab regimes are attempting to confront this fanaticism in a way that does not take into consideration either democracy or the supremacy of law [words indistinct] and in a flurry of prison arrests and detentions, as well as violent confrontations which approach the level of civil war, many innocent people fall victim. Mubarak continued: We do not and will not act in this way. We are determined to respect the supremacy of law.

Presidnet Mubarak said that he does not share the increasing concern which many people have about an escalation of fanaticism in Egypt. He expressed his confidence that cooperation among the democratic regime's institutions will ultimately led to the decline of this phenomenon. He added: As a state we know the volume, extent, and nature of the extremists' activity in Egypt. No matter how much people may believe that the voice of the extremists has become louder recently, this phenomenon is still limited to a minor organization which only has a few hundred members.

President Mubarak criticized some of the Egyptian opposition papers which — consciously or unconsciously — encourage the growth of extremist trends among the youth. This happens despite the awareness of these parties that fanaticism undermines Egypt's choice of democracy, as well as the very existence of the opposition and the party system as a whole. Mubarak noted that when some people exaggerate about corruption in Egypt, implying that the entire country is corrupt, they ignore the clear reality that the present regime cannot cover up any sort of corruption, whether big or small. The result of promoting exaggerated and largely false ideas is that a segment of the youth will lose confidence in their existence, in their country, and in everything. At that moment they see violence as their only hope and fanaticism as their only solution.

President Mubarak again emphasized that no sign of corruption will be covered up. The identity of the people involved does not matter. He affirmed that Egypt is still in a good position in light of the fact that the volume of corruption in our country is nowhere near that prevailing in several other places.

AL-AHRAM Interview on Regional Issues

NC040714 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2220 GMT 3 Jul 86

[Text] Cairo, 3 Jul (MENA) — President Husni Mubarak has given a wide-ranging interview to the daily *Al-Ahram*. In this interivew, which will be published tomorrow, the president said Egypt is doing all it can to establish a unified Palestinian entity in confederation [ittihad konfidrali] with Jordan. He also revealed that two messages on this were sent to Yasir 'Arafat last month, and that they contain proposals designed to break the stalemate that has been the hallmark of recent relations between Jordan and the PLO.

The president expressed Egypt's rejection of a proposal it has received, which calls for the annexation of Gaza [damm Ghazzah ilayha] as in the past. The reason, he noted, is Egypt's belief that the Palestinian issue should be resolved in toto, and that the future of Gaza should be linked to that of the West Bank. Mubarak said that Egypt is careful to remain in constant touch with Jordan on this.

As for the Tabah talks, the president explained that we are standing by our rights to Tabah. This issue has dragged on thanks to party conflict within Israel, but we shall soon see some results.

Commenting on Egyptian-Arab relations, Mubarak said we have done everything possible with Al-Qadhdhafi, but in vain. The president pointed out that Egypt has never allowed and will never allow anyone to use its airspace for action against an Arab country. This, Mubarak declared, refutes Al-Qadhdhafi's allegations that Egypt supported the United States in its raid on Libya. That attack, he added, was condemned by every official and popular body in Egypt.

Turning to the country's economic situation, the president said it is truly difficult, and the people must know that. The government is doing what it must to overcome the economic crisis, but it needs the support of all through their work, hope, and participation. The contributions of the rich are required as well. Mubarak explained that any future measures to correct the economy will not hurt the poor. They will affect only those who can afford it, and will thus enhance social justice.

The president noted the government's work in agriculture and in increasing the quantity of arable land. These efforts, he said, reflect a sound view of the country's future.

In addition, Mubarak discussed "development for the future," the slogan for the upcoming NDP general congress. He noted that it means development should bring a better future for our young people and that they should be given greater opportunities to take part in agriculture, industry, and other productive activities.

Mubarak expressed the hope that he would be able to supervise the implementation of the first 5-year plan in keeping with the public interest. It would also serve to lay the foundations for the start of the second 5-year plan during the remainder of his first term in office.

President Mubarak called on critics of military spending to stop their one-upmanship and to be completely honest in all that affects the country. Mubarak said that were it not for the assistance we receive, we would be unable to maintain our current level of military expenditure, which is just sufficient for our needs. The president pointed out that he hates to discuss this question, but that those who raise it ignore the spectacular increase in the cost of the equipment necessary for Egypt to have a credible deterrent force.

As for Egypt's democratic experience, the president described it as rare and unique in the Arab world, but somewhat tainted by certain excesses in practice.

When asked if there were any signs of a renewed regional peace process, the president said that Egypt follows every trail that could lead to peace.

Mubarak stated that the problem lies in the PLO's position on Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338. He explained that the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement has faltered, and that we are currently trying to break the resulting deadlock by convincing both sides to show greater flexibility in reconsidering the matter. This is better than allowing things to wither away and then wake up one day to discover that it is too late to retrieve what has been lost.

President Mubarak was asked about Egypt's attempts to reconcile the PLO and Jordan and thus end the existing stalemate. He replied: I sent two messages to Yasir 'Arafat. I will not reveal their content, but I hope they will receive thorough consideration so that something may be done to escape this impasse. I am also in constant touch with King Husayn. When I met with Rashad al-Shawwa for a discussion of the future of Gaza, I asked him if he had spoken with the Israelis. He said he did. Then I asked him if he had talked to King Husayn, for I will not make any decision in the absence of coordination with Jordan. Al-Sadat was once called names for proposing that self-rule begin with Gaza, and that the Israelis withdraw from Gaza to a new security line outside. At that time, Mubarak noted, some said Al-Sadat was seeking partial solutions and was responsible for the loss of Palestine.

President Mubarak added: I am not prepared to start with Gaza and work alone to the exclusion of the West Bank and King Husayn, who is a partner in this issue. An agreement between us is essential if our efforts are to be united, channeled in a single direction, and productive.

On Egypt's view of a solution to the Palestinian problem, President Mubarak declared: We want a solution to the entire matter under the terms of the Jordanian-Palestinian accord. What I mean is the confederal union that the Jordanians and Palestinians had agreed upon. The old system, which had Gaza as our trust territory and the West Bank as Jordan's is finished. We are now aiming for a Palestinian entity that will be associated with Jordan. I have met with King Husayn and have spoken to him quite frankly. We have agreed to link Gaza with the West Bank and thus deal with the issue as a whole.

President Mubarak touched on Syrian-Iraqi relations as well, and expressed his hope that King Husayn will succeed in narrowing the gap between the two countries. He added: I wish the king success, though personally I cannot see any way to do it. Both Syria and Iraq have firm opinions, and Damascus has special relations with Iran. When Iran felt an attempt was being made to reconcile Iraq and Syria, it was quick to pump oil to Damascus. For its part, Iraq has no hope of coming to terms with Syria.

Regarding the rapprochement between Jordan and Syria, Mubarka ruled out the possibility of it being a blow to the Palestinian question. He emphasized that any reconciliation is a gain for the Arabs and their cause.

When asked if there was anything new in Egypt's relations with the Arabs, and particularly in its ties with Libya, Syria, Saudi Arabia, and Sudan, President Mubarak responded: Egypt has done the impossible with Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, but to no avail. Despite all our statements, Al-Qadhdhafi still says Egypt agreed with the United States and facilitated its attack on Libya. He tries to substantiate his claims with assertions that a member of the 'Ali Sons tribes who was arrested had confessed to spying for the United States. Does the United States, with all its resources, need anyone to give it information? The introduction of electronics into American Aviation makes any help from us totally unnecessary. Despite these facts, you can see that Libya is incapable of addressing itself to the United States, and talks about Egypt isntead. We have never attacked any Arab state, and we have not permitted and will not permit anyone to use Egyptian airspace against an Arab country.

President Mubarak added: As far as Egypt's relations with Saudi Arabia are concerned, I was stunned when some Saudi papers attacked us. I never imagined that a Saudi paper would ever write that the United States guides Egypt by remote control. I told the Saudis about this, and the paper in question stopped its attacks. I hope this will remain the case. In Saudi Arabia, the government can prevent anyonne from writing against Egypt. Although I might have some difficulty in doing the same thing here, I have succeeded in persuading our writers not to attack Saudi Arabia by establishing good relations with them and by giving them the facts.

Concluding his interview, President Mubarak said: There is absolutely nothing to mar our relations with Sudan. All Egypt has welcomed the visit by the chairman of the Sudanese State Council.

The Sudanese prime minister, brother Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi, will be coming to Cairo soon so that together we may prepare our strategy for bilateral cooperation in the future.

[Cairo *Al-Ahram International Edition* in Arabic on 4 July 1986 carries on pages 3 and 6 the 5,500-word text of the interview with President Mubarak. Comparison shows that the interview incorporates the following exchanges not covered by MENA:

"Question: How does the president view the demands to amend the Constitution, particularly with regard to adopting the system of electing the president and the vice president and abolishing the system of election on the basis of lists?

"Answer: Such demands are not included in my list of priorities. At present I am striving to secure the people's livelihood. This is the priority that is preoccupying me at present. When we are through with it we will move toward dealing with the next priorities. I could deal with the demands for constitutional amendments but I do not wish to preoccupy the people with them because they take a long time. It is better to invest time in providing the people's needs and deal with the demands for constitutional amendments later when conditions become suitable.

"Question: The opposition raised an uproar over the National Assembly's passing a resolution empowering you to issue decisions having the power of law in military and economic matters. What is the president's comment on this?

"Answer: I do not see the problem in the president of the republic acting with a mandate in certain matters which by their nature require urgent action. We are not working in the dark. Is there anything hidden so that from time to time we get involved in such controversy? I do not wish the country to get involved in such endless debates. We are a Third World country and so should dedicate our time to building ourselves.

"Question: Certain people at home and abroad have apprehensions about the activities of religious groups. How does the president evaluate these apprehensions? What is the policy with regard to confronting violations of this nature?

"Answer: Such violations are committed in both Arab and non-Arab countries. There are violations even in Israel. This phenomenon is not unique to Egypt. We deal with it in the manner we deem fit. What do we have to fear as long as we are alert and adhere to the laws?

"Question: Maybe the fear stems from reports that a large number of people have recently been arrested. I remember recently hearing the figure 700 being cited.

"Answer: It is not always 700; I believe that the figure at present is about 30 individuals. I do not wish to mention names now so that the current security measures will not be jeopardized. Also, we do not aim at capturing the ringleaders only. In the final analysis the matter, as I said, is an international phenomenon that is not peculiar to us."]

Tariq 'Aziz Addresses Conference on Gulf War

JN081530 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1400 GMT 8 Jul 86

[Excerpt] Baghdad, 8 Jul (INA) — Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, has affirmed that Iraq's insistence on peace stems from its principles and from its responsible stand toward security and stability in the region, as well as from its concern to maintain factors of progress and prosperity for the regional peoples and countries. In a speech opening the rally organized by the international followup committee for the 2d anniversary of the international conference on the serious effects of the Gulf war on world peace and security, Tariq 'Aziz said: The course of Iraq, which is capable of repulsing the Iranian aggression, asserts its strategic superiority and steadfastness. Meanwhile, the Iranian regime is facing a series of defeats and failures on various political, military, and economic levels.

'Aziz added that for many years Iraq's political and diplomatic activities have affirmed that Iraq has accepted all of the Security Council resolutions on ending the war and resolving the conflict through peaceful methods. Iraq has always dealt positively and in cooperation with all international and Islamic mediation committees as well as with the mediation of the Nonaligned Movement which tried to stop the fighting and achieve peace. He added that this confirms Iraq's peaceful intentions and honest desire to coexist peacefully with all peoples in the region, as well as its belief in the sovereignty of international law over relations among countries.

Tariq 'Aziz noted the importance of the international conference because it represents an honest response to a broad international will stemming from a strong belief in peace and peaceful coexistence among peoples, respecting international charters and international law, the need for concerned international organizations to tackle problems and disputes among states, and the need to solve these problems through peaceful means.

'Aziz said: The importance of the conference is also represented in the basic facts it affirmed; namely, the Iranian regime is responsible for igniting this war, its continuation, and for the great human and material losses. This is in addition to the Iranian regime's continued refusal to resort to international law to resolve the conflict, and its rejection of the many international initiatives to resolve the conflict in a peaceful, fair, and honorable way. This Iranian stand exposes and affirms the Iranian regime's aggressive and expansionist objectives starting the war and insisting upon it.

The Iraqi deputy prime minister and foreign minister called on all brothers and friends, who expressed solidarity with the will of peace for which Iraq is struggling, for more effective action and for a broader mobilization against the real dangers of the Iranian aggression to isolate that aggressive regime and to stop supplying it with arms, military equipment, and technical experience so that it will respond to the will of the world, end its aggression, and resort to a just, permanent, comprehensive, and honorable peace.

Tariq 'Aziz added that the roar of war created by the Iranian regime is not a sign of strength or self-confidence, but evidence of fear of the future. He added that the Iranian regime thinks that through the roar of propaganda it can change the essential facts in the course of this strategic conflict.

'Aziz pointed out the four messages President Saddam Husayn addressed to the Iranian people in which he called for a fair, comprehensive, permanent, and honorable peace based on respecting both parties' sovereignty, rights, options, and on noninterference in the domestic affairs of the other party. He added that these messages will remain evidence of Iraq's intentions and concern for peace which will give Iraq and Iran an opportunity to contribute to serving the region and reinforcing its peace and security.

Sa'd Qasim Hamudi, secretary genral of the committee, also delivered a speech in which he noted that the memebrs of the international conference clearly expressed their strong condemnation of the Iraq-Iran war which the Iranian regime insists on continuing. [Passage omitted]

Reportage on Combat Operations in Gulf War

Communique No 2,283

JN071705 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1600 GMT 7 Jul 86

[Communique No 2,283 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 7 July 1986]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Our valiant Armed Forces, which embody Iraq's vigor and loftiness and its people's aspirations for a free and dignified life, are fighting to rebuff aggression and inflict further losses on the aggressors with the power of God.

The following is a roundup of activities for last night and today:

1. At 1115 [0715 GMT] today, an enemy force attempted to attack our forward units in the Mehran area within the II Army Corps operational sector. Strongly supported by the brave eagles of the air and the courageous artillery men, our tough men, known for extreme courage and meticulous, heroic perfornace, crushed the enemy attempt and wiped out most of the attacking force. The remaining few fled under strong Iraqi fire. The situation was settled in favor of our triumphant forces. God bless every brave man loyal to Iraq's territory and concerned about the homeland's security and people's dignity. Praised be God for His support.

Elsewhere in the same sector, three tanks, one observation post, and several infantry positions were destroyed and some enemy soldiers were killed.

2. Our gigantic Air Force continues to pursue the despotic Khomeyniites to pour down on them Iraq's wrath, further dismember their knaves, and destroy their resources and supplies. Our bold planes carried out 57 combat missions today, inflicting death on enemy concentrations and destruction on weaponry, equipment, and hardware. They also achieved the following:

a) At 1440 today our planes launched a bold raid on a large maritime target off the Iranian coast, scoring an accurate and effective hit.
b) At 1457 today other planes launched a new successful raid on Khark Island installations, hitting their targets and setting them ablaze.
c) Late this afternoon our planes spotted 50 vehicles loaded with personnel and 15 trailers. Our good, brave pilots swooped down on them and succeeded in destroying them and their occupants. After carrying out all missions with great courage and accuracy, the true pilots returned safely and triumphantly to base in God's care.

3. The cavaliers of the bold helicopter gunships continued to pour their lava down on the criminal knaves. They made 26 combat sorties today, destroying several concentrations of the despotic Khomeyniites and a number of their armor, vehicles, and weapons. The brave cavaliers then returned safely and triumphantly to base, praise be to God.

4. Using intensive artillery, tank, and mortar fire, our brave fighters on the VII Army Corps front destroyed several enemy infantry positions and set them ablaze. They also damaged one shovel and destroyed one vehicle, one 106-mm gun, one ammunition dump, and three machine gun emplacements.

5. Our heroic patrols were carrying out their duties in no-man's-land in the V Army Corps northern sector when they seized the following weapons which the enemy had left behind after fleeing recent battles: one 120-mm mortar, one 60-mm mortar, one heavy-caliber machine gun, one radio, and two Kalashnikov rifles. The Corps' loyal soldiers also killed 12 knaves elsewhere in this sector.

6. Eight enemy soldiers were killed, one boat and two infantry positions were destroyed, and fires were started in enemy areas in the III Army Corps sector east of Al-Basrah. Quantities of ammunition which the enemy left behind in recent battles in the IV Army Corps sector east of Maysan were seized and one ammunition dump and two infantry positions were destroyed in the I Army Corps northern sector.

7. The forces of the suspect despots shelled Abu al-Khasib District and the suburbs of Khanaqin with long-range artillery.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command 7 July 1986

'Third' Maritime Target Hit 6 Jul

JN061753 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1743 GMT 6 Jul 86

[Text] Baghdad, 6 Jul (INA) — Iraqi fighter planes delivered an accurate and effective strike against a third maritime target off the Iranian coast this evening. In a statement to INA this evening, a military spokesman said the Iraqi planes hit the target at 1949 [1549 GMT] today and returned safely to base.

This morning other Iraqi planes raided two maritime targets off the Iranian coast, scoring accurate and effective hits.

Maritime Target Hit 7 Jul

JN072003 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1955 GMT 7 Jul 86

[Text] Baghdad, 7 Jul (INA) — Iraqi fighter planes launched a bold raid on a large maritime target near Iran's Khark Island at 2030 [1630 GMT] today. An Iraqi military spokesman told INA that the Iraqi planes hit the target accurately and effectively and returned safely to base.

New Mehran Offensive Crushed

JN081032 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1015 GMT 8 Jul 86

[Text] Baghdad, 8 Jul (INA) — For the second time in 2 days Iraqi forces crushed a new Iranian offensive in the Mehran area this morning. An Iraqi military soruce told INA that the Iranian forces and the troops sent to reinforce them sustained huge losses in this battle, estimated at thousands of killed including large numbers of officers, among whom was a ranking Iranian commander. The source added that the Iraqi fighter planes, bombers, helicopter gunships, and artillery played an important role in wiping out the bulk of the attacking forces.

On Iranian claims that fighting took place with some Iraqi brigades, the source explained that the brigades mentioned were never in the sector and this shows the falseness of the Iranian claims. He also denied that the strategic Al-Basrah-Baghdad road was attacked by the Iranian forces. He said: Those who know geography know that this road is some 100 km away from the area of operations on the borders.

The source concluded his statement by saying that all this demonstrates that those who issue Iranian communiques are ignorant and base their communiques on their sick imagination.

Six Iranian Divisions Hit

JN081612 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1532 GMT 8 Jul 86

[Text] Baghdad, 8 Jul (INA) — The Iraqi Armed Forces have wiped out most of six divisions of Khomeyni guards in addition to the guards' 21st Brigade, which is called the Imam al-Rida Brigade, during fighting this week in the Mehran sector. In a statement to INA, an Iraqi military spokesman said that the six divisions that were almost completely wiped out were Nasr, the 5th Division; Sayyid al-Shuahada', the 10th Division; 'Ali ibn Abi Talib, the 17th Division; Karbala', the 25th Division; Muhammad Rasullah, the 27th Division; and Tha'r Ullah, the 41st Division. The spokesman added that as a result the Iranians lost 10,000 troops and twice that number were wounded. The Iraqi forces continue to wipe out waves of Khomeyni guards which the Iranian rulers are sending one after the other.

The spokesman noted that the Iranian regime was forced to gather its remnant forces from the various sectors to offer them as fodder for the Iraqi fire, now that the Iranian forces have completely failed to reach an impregnable position to reduce the immense losses they are sustaining in their current positions.

The spokesman added that the current battles will be a scandal for the Iranian regime because of the grave losses it has sustained.

Communique No 2,284

JN081643 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1600 GMT 8 Jul 86

[Communique No 2,284 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 8 July 1986]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. The forces of truth, which are supported by God, are continuing their glorious defense of Iraqi borders, giving a great example in courage and valor and inflicting further losses on the gang of evil and aggression. Our men are supported by God and are full of vigor and pride. The following is a roundup of our operations for last night and today:

1. Today the unjust enemy sent groups of its forces to attack our forward positions in the Mehran area within the II Army Corps sector. Our brave forces fiercely confronted all enemy attempts and inflicted grave losses on the enemy forces and their reinforcements. Our forces also destroyed large quantities of enemy equipment, weaponry, and supplies, and are now in absolute control of the situation. They are dealing the enemy further blows to inflict more losses on the aggressors.

2. The brave eagles of the air have continued to pursue enemy remnants, inflicting further losses. They flew 39 combat missions and returned safely to base, praise be to God.

3. Our Army helicopter gunhsips dealt successful blows on enemy remnants, weaponry, and equipment. They flew 24 combat missions after which they returned safely to base.

4. Six enemy troops were killed and one observation post was destroyed in the V Army Corps northern sector. In the same sector, one of our patrols seized two Kalashnikov rifles, one GC rifle, one antiaircraft gun, and five pieces of communications equipment.

5. Our units on the VII Army Corps front have continued to confront enemy remnants, inflicting losses in men and equipment. They destroyed two vehicles, two infantry positions, and one ammunition dump. Our units also caused huge fires on the enemy side.

6. An enemy patrol attempted to advance on our positions in the I Army Corps northern sector, but our brave forces captured one of the patrol members and seized a Kalashnikov rifle. Our men also killed a number of enemy troops and forced the others to flee.

7. Our units in the III Army Corps sector east of Al-Basrah tackled enemy positions and troop concentrations killing two, destroying one boat and two infantry positions, and burning one vehicle and two ammunition dumps.

8. A number of enemy troops were killed, and five infantry positions, two gun emplacements, and two observation posts wre destroyed in the IV Army Corps sector east of Maysan.

9. By their criminal acts, the tyrant Iranian rulers are affirming their immorality and their spite against our great people. The mean Iranian clique has committed a new crime by shelling Al-Qurnah city with long-range artillery, martyring one girl and another youth, and injuring another child and two other civilians. While asking God to have mercy on the souls of the martyrs and to heal the injured citizens, we affirm that this grotesque crime will not go without harsh punishment.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 8 July 1986

Commander on Iranian Losses

JN090711 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0645 GMT 9 Jul 86

[Text] Baghdad, 9 Jul (INA) — An Iraqi field commander has stated that the huge losses sustained by the Iranian forces in the recent battles have compelled the Iranian regime to carry out futile maneuvers with its units in its attempt to compensate for these losses. Staff Brigadier General 'Abd al-Zahrah Shakarah, commander of the 29th Division, has stressed that the Iranian forces in the Mehran sector are currently sustaining losses they never expected to sustain. In an interview with *Al-Qaidisyah* here today, the Iraqi commander explained that the Iranian rulers have put their forces in a critical situation as they are now between the hammer and the anvil.

The Iraqi commander said that the Iranian people will realize the extent of the catastrophe that has befallen them when they come to know the real losses the Iranian forces sustained in the Mehran sector.

Air Force Commander on Mehran

JN090745 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0705 GMT 9 Jul 86

[Text] Baghdad, 9 Jul (INA) — The commander of the Air Force and Air Defenses has stated that the Iraqi Air Force destroyed more than 1,000 Iranian vehicles and armored vehicles before participating in the battles in the Mehran sector, not to mention the Iranian forces which are currently being wiped out on the battlefield. In an interview with *Al-Qadisiyah* today, Lieutenant General Hamid Sha'ban, commander of the Air Force and Air Defenses, said that the Mehran area has become a big graveyard for the Iranian forces thanks to blows of the Iraqi Air Force which has wide experience and the necessary sophisticated weapons enabling it to perform over the entire battlefield under all circumstances and at all times.

The Iraqi commander stressed that the Iraqi Air Force has not introduced all that it possesses into the battle. He added: This is because our calculations and expectations are that a protracted war will be waged and we expect the Iranian regime to wage new offensives against Iraq at any time.

The Air Force commander added that the Iraqi Air Force will not allow the Iranian regime to catch its breath and will deal it effective and accurate blows that will destroy its vital resources and prevent it from using these resources in the aggression. He said that the Iraqi Air Force from now on will strike at the Iranian forces' hideouts in rear positions, communciations lines, and economic and military targets which are far from the battlefield. He stressed that the Iraqi Air Force will not leave any

Iranian target or facility until it destroys it, no matter how remote they may be.

Talks Begin With Egyptian Foreign Trade Delegation
JN081127 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1035 GMT 8 Jul 86

[Excerpt] Baghdad, 8 Jul (INA) — The meetings of the first session of the Iraqi-Egyptian Joint Committee for Economic, Trade, and Technical Cooperation began here today. Hasan 'Ali, RCC member and trade minister, chaired the Iraqi delegation to the meetings while Dr Sultan Abu 'Ali, Egyptian minister of economy and foreign trade, chaired the Egyptian delegation.

The heads of the two delegations exchanged cordial speeches expressing their two countries' desire to promote bilateral relations. Hasan 'Ali said the first session of the committee will be successful because it will discuss cases that will contribute to promoting economic, trade, and technical cooperation between the two fraternal countries. Hasan 'Ali explained that Iraq continues to implement important projects within its development plan for bolstering the Iraqi economy despite the unusual circumstances of the war that is imposed on Iraq.

Dr Sultan Abu 'Ali stressed that cooperation with Iraq is vital and essential in these circumstances, particularly since such cooperation has historical roots which bind the two countries in various fields. He pointed out that Egypt is ready to put all its availabel resources at Iraq's disposal to enable it to attain its development plans and that it will postively respond to all the requirements for bolstering Iraqi development, whether in industry, agriculture, transport, communications, or other fields.

The two sides then discussed the items listed on the agenda such as economic cooperation, trade exchange, scientific and technical cooperation, trade exchange, scientific and technical cooperation, and issues dealing with agriculture, irrigation, industry, social security, and all other issues that bolster joint cooperation.

Three subcommittees were formed: the committee for trade exchange, the economic and financial committee, and the committee for scientific and technical cooperation. [Passage omitted on those attending session]

Husayn To Resume Iraq-Syria Mediation

PM090842 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 8 Jul 86 p 1

[Unattributed report: "Al-Fayiz Tells *Al-Sharq al-Awsat*: Husayn To Visit Baghdad and Damascus in the Next 2 Days"]

[Excerpt] King Husayn of Jordan will this week resume his mediation between Syria and Iraq and will visit both states within the next 2 days. Jordanian House of Representatives Speaker 'Akif al-Fayiz has stated that he found Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad fully understanding and responsive in connection with the question of clearing the Arab atmosphere and pooling Arab resources at this stage.

In an exclusive statement to *Al-Sharq al-Awsat*, 'Akif al-Fayiz, who returned to Amman from Damascus yesterday, said that during his visit to Damascus he discussed current Arab developments with President al-Asad, whose views he found to be quite responsive to the requirements of the current phase.

On the mission of the Arab parliamentary delegation which will undertake Arab reconciliation, the Jordanian House of Representatives speaker and current Arab Parliamentary Union chairman said that this matter will be left to the Jordanian monarch, who will resume his mediation by visiting Damascus and Baghdad this week. [Passage omitted]

AL-RA'Y Reacts to Decision on PLO Offices

JN081059 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic 8 Jul 86 p 1

[Text] Jordan has always taken care not to be affected by what has been or what is being said about its firm policy toward the Palestine question. In short, the Palestine question for us is a national cause; it is the cause of our past, present, and future; it is the cause of our land and people. Moreover it is the cause of the one family whose hopes and pains have converged, which has united in steadfastness and determination, and whose march has been characterized by unlimited suffering and unprecedented courage. Therefore, any accusations aimed against our firm stands and policy will continue to be unjust, illogical, and biased accusations.

The Jordanian Government stressed this care in its statement yesterday on the closing of non-PLO offices. The government's decision was based on a deep and more important consideration related to rejecting all attempts to cast doubt on the government's policies, and to rejecting attempts to undermine our national stand toward the Palestine question, our major and central cause, the cause of our present and future. The closing of these offices is based on the government's conviction of the wickedness and seriousness of the role played by these offices. The closing of these offices does not mean that Jordan has changed its stands that are well-known to all Arabs, friends, and even enemies, whether toward our recognition of the PLO or toward the continuation of our dealing with the PLO in its capacity as the Palestinian people's sole and legitimate representative.

Still, we believe that the Palestine question must not be an arena for accusations, defamation, and delusion, and that the sanctity of this question and our commitment to it should urge us to be concerned about cooperation and understanding with our brothers in the PLO. This concern is part of a major concern for Arab solidarity, and for mobilizing our potential and closing our ranks around this question and around our major, serious, and fateful conflict with the Zionist enemy, its plans and racism which are clear to everyone.

Jordanian Daily on Economic Plan for West Bank

JN080837 Amman SAWT AL-SHA'B in Arabic 8 Jul 86 p 1, 16

[By Ahmad al-Nusur]

[Text] Amman — *Sawt al-Sha'b* has learned that a plan for economic and social development in the occupied West Bank which is being prepared by the Planning Ministry is in its final stages and that overall investment in this plan amounts to approximately 461 million Jordanian dinars and will cover health, education, housing, agriculture, and industry. This plan is in line with the Jordanian Government's efforts to improve economic and social conditions in the West Bank and is the first comprehensive Jordanian plan for the West Bank since it became occupied.

The plan seeks to channel the development move in various fields to bolster the steadfastness of the citizens on their occupied lands by regulating Jordanian expenditures in these fields. The plan also calls for completing the economic integration of the West Bank economy with the economies of neighboring Arab countries, mainly with the East Bank.

Occupied Territories Affairs Ministry sources said that official efforts are being exerted to attract the necessary funds needed for the plan from various international sources, the IMF, and Arab investors to secure the sum of 90 million dinars which represents the total expenditure needed annually for implementation of the plan.

Press Comments on Occupied Territory Meeting

SAWT AL-SHA'B

JN030832 Amman SAWT AL-SHA'B in Arabic 3 Jul 86 pp 1, 16

[Editorial: "For the Sake of Preserving Territory and People"]

[Text] Jordan, which has worked hard and struggled long in order to formulate a comprehensive pan-Arab stand to bolster the steadfastness of our kinfolk in the occupied territory, is destined to continue to assume this historic, pan-Arab responsibility with all of its resources and efforts for the sake of preserving the sacred land and the Palestinian Arab identity before all opportunities are lost and before the Zionist octopus completely engulfs and swallows up the occupied Arab territory in the absence of a comprehensive Arab stand.

This historical fact of Jordanian policy emerged very clearly yesterday from His Majesty King Husayn's review of the Palestine question before the Higher Committee for Occupied Territory Affairs during two decades of Israeli occupation and his assertion that priority must continue to be given to the territory and our steadfast kinfolk in order to strengthen their steadfastness, attachment to the land, and preservation of their national identity.

When King Husayn turns with his whole heart, mind, and struggle toward our steadfast kinfolk in the occupied territory at this critical and sensitive phase, this means, among other things, that the Jordanian leadership is concerned about joint Arab action and Arab solidarity and has logical reasons and pressing justifications that prompt it to immediately respond to the appeal stemming from the conscience of the occupied territory, which is facing the danger of being carved up and removed from the Arab map, and also from the conscience of the steadfast Palestinian people there, who the occupation authorities are about to completely uproot from their land and obliterate their identity and thus eliminate any trace of the Arabism of the territory and people.

Two decades have passed since the Israeli occupation of the West Bank and Gaza, yet our kinfolk remained patient, steadfast, and militant. Two decades have passed while the Israeli occupation authorities continued to carry out their Judaization plans stage by stage in the absence of any joint Arab action against this fait accompli, which is being enforced on the territory, the people, and the cause.

All that took place while our kinfolk in the occupied territory waited for serious action and real, sincere assistance and support. King Husayn's stands have come as a translation and an embodiment of Jordan's response to and interaction with our kinfolk. They have come to save our kinfolk, bolster their steadfastness, and strengthen their attachment to their territory and homeland. This response is based on a realistic and objective understanding of the circumstances of the occupied territory and the suffering of its people. This response reaches every field through a 5-year development plan within the comprehensive Jordanian development program and also through real participation in the burden of confrontation as well as in national and pan-Arab responsibilities whenever resources permit.

We and our steadfast kinfolk in the occupied terriotry hope that His Majesty King Husayn's initiative and efforts will be the beginning of a concerted Arab effort within an integral plan to preserve the land and entrench our kinfolk on it. Pan-Arab responsibilities transcend all borders and regional and personal interests and rise above all wounds, pain, and suffering.

AL-DUSTUR

JN030914 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 3 Jul 86 pp 1, 19

[Editorial: "Proceeding From Commitment to Our Kinfolk"]

[Text] The meeting of the Higher Committee for Occupied Territory Affairs which his Majesty King Husayn chaired yesterday constitutes an important slogan for a special phase of intensified pan-Arab approach toward the kinfolk in the occupied territory with the aim of bolstering steadfastness in the face of occupation, entrenching the Arab identity of the land, and protecting the cohesion between brothers on the two banks of the Jordan River.

Jordan, which during the previous years of the Israeli occupation of the West Bank fully carried out its pan-arab duty and fulfilled all its national commitments, completely realizes that without a stand that faces up to the level of heavy responsibility and that confronts the various ramifications resulting from 2 decades of occupation, the identity of the land will be subjected to all possible dangers and the fate of its inhabitants will be exposed to the gravest possible challenges.

Based on these commitments, and out of awareness about the specific traits of this critical phase, Jordan has prepared the first 5-year development plan for the occupied territory despite the sparsity of its intrinsic resources and despite the lack of financial capabilities — capabilities which have been subjected and are still subjected to continuous reduction due to the economic, oil, and financial crisis being experienced by all Arab region countries.

However, this country, which has been accustomed to sharing the daily bread with its brethren, not to mention the joint danger and destiny, has not taken into consideration the mere accounts of material profit and loss, now that the fate of the Arab land and the future of the Palestinian arab people are in jeopardy.

His Majesty King Husayn, who has carried the Palestine question within his great heart to the entire world, explaining, warning, and cautioning against the consequences of the continued Israeli occupation of the Arab land, today returned from his recent trip which took into account the facilitation of suffering being experienced by the kinfolk, bolstering the citizens' steadfastness, and preserving the land's identity pending possible practical alternatives that will allow the return of the land that is free, dear, and purged from the filth of the occupiers.

While preparing to carry out its national and pan-Arab duty toward the kinfolk in the occupied land, Jordan is looking forward to its Arab brethren extending support and backing to those who are steadfast, patient and who are stationed near the Al-Aqsa Mosque and in the West Bank and Gaza. By so doing, the Arab brethren will be carrying out part of their duty toward the kinfolk, brothers, and sons in the occupied territory.

Omani Sultan Qabus Leaves for Cairo 7 Jul

JN071136 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 7 Jul 86

[Text] Aqaba — His Majesty Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id of Oman left Aqaba for Cairo at noon today following a 3-day private visit to Jordan. His Majesty King Husayn saw off His Majesty Sultan Qabus at Aqaba airport. Also present were Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i and a number of senior civilian and military officials.

Airport Official Details New Security Measures

NC081242 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
1115 GMT 8 Jul 86

[Text] Brigadier General Samil al-Shaykhah, head of Beirut airport's security service, has announced that new security measures have been implemented in and around the airport. Checkpoints have been established to arrest any armed men and the entire area is being patrolled to ensure the safety of roads leading to the airport, he noted. Al-Shaykhah added that the airport parking lot has been rearranged with certain areas being allotted to specific groups. To ensure maximum security, no cars will be allowed to remain parked within airport areas. Only passengers will be allowed inside the airport itself, and entry will be restricted to official gates, he stated.

Syrians Prevented From Deploying in Southern Suburb

NC081852 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic
1545 GMT 8 Jul 86

[Text] We would like to point out that the Syrians have not been able to spread out to the southern suburb, the stronghold of Hizballah. Sources at the joint Syrian-Lebanese security force say that obstacles prevented the security patrols from spreading out into certain additional areas, particularly in Burj Abu Haydar, Al-Nuwayri, Al-Khandaq Al-Ghamiq, Al-Bastah, and Suqaq Al-Balat. The sources add that communications are continuing with Hizballah and other organizations to have them close their party offices in these areas before expanding the jurisdiction of the security force. This is so as to avoid clashes with the gunmen.

According to Hizballah sources, the organization's leaders refuse to close their offices in these areas on the pretext that they are too close to the contact lines.

The security sources express fears about the new plan, which is designed to protect the residences of politicians, former prime ministers, and diplomats, because of potential embarrassment resulting from the possible rejection of this protection, particularly as the plan provides for the participation of Syrian intelligence.

Nasirites Order Strict Security Measures in Sidon

NC071406 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic
to Lebanon 0130 GMT 7 Jul 86

[Text] Mustafa Sa'd, secretary general of the Nasirite Popular Organization, returned from Damascus today. While there, Sa'd met with Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, as well as leaders of the Palestinian National Salvation Front. Sa'd's talks in Damascus dealt with the various aspects of the current situation in Lebanon.

Sa'd issued instructions today for strict security measures to be taken at the northern entrance to Sidon, near the Al-Awwali roadblock, as it is the gateway to the south. This will prevent the entry or infiltration of suspicious Palestinian or Lebanese elements, which would undermine and harm nationalist activity. Sa'd pointed out that the aim of these measures is to prevent individuals from coming to Sidon and the south to carry out sabotage and to strike at the unity of the nationalist ranks, as they have repeatedly tried to do in West Beirut, the camps, and the southern suburb.

Amal, Security Forces Clash on AUB Campus

NC090857 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic
0845 GMT 9 Jul 86

[Text] At approximately 1100 today, Amal gunmen, who were escorting the wife of Minister Nabih Birri, and members of the security force exchanged fire on the American University of Beirut [AUB] campus. The incident led to tension in the area.

AL-NAHAR on Implications of Syrian Entry Into Beirut

NC090946 Beirut AL-NAHAR in Arabic 8 Jul 86 p 2

[Emile Khuri article entitled: "The Return of Syrian Forces to West Beirut Raises Several Questions; Syria Would Be Able to Restore Its Role in the Framework of a Comprehensive Deal If It Manages To Bring About the Release of Hostages, Stamp Out Terrorism, and Find a Solution to the Problem of the South"]

[Excerpts] The full political and security implications of the Syrian Forces' entry into West Beirut are as yet unknown. However, the return of these forces has raised several questions within official and political circles. These questions are as follows:

1. Will the Syrian forces' return to West Beirut, and probably to other parts of the country as well, restore the situation to what it was before 1982? Some Palestinian fighters have already come back, and certain militias and armed groups are replacing the legitimate security forces. [passage omitted] If this continues, how will the Lebanese authorities react?

2. Knowing that the Syrian forces entered West Beirut without obtaining prior official Lebanese authorization, will this return receive the same international and regional support enjoyed in 1976, when these forces also entered Lebanon without permission from the Lebanese authorities in order to enforce discipline on the Palestinians and to stop the fighting in the country? [passage omitted]

3. Will the Syrian forces' return mark the beginning of the implementation of the tripartite agreement's security clauses? [passage omitted]

4. Does the return of the Syrian forces fall within the framework of a comprehensive regional and international deal that provides for the release of all foreign hostages, security arrangements in the south leading to Israel's full withdrawal from the country in accordance with UN Security Council resolution 425, and a clampdown on terrorism and terrorists in all areas under Syrian control? If Syria manages to accomplish this, it would then be in a position to restore its role in Lebanon and the region, and thus once again gain control of the Lebanese and Palestinian cards.

The release of the U.S., French, and UK hostages would tempt the powers concerned to give Syria a free hand in choosing whatever methods it deems appropriate to achieve these objectives. Syria will have to tighten its military control over those areas which serve as a venue or route for acts of kidnapping and terrorism, something which Syria has already begun to do. [passage omitted]

According to an official source, Syria has been flirting with the West lately in the hope that this will restore its role in Lebanon and the region. The flirtation will only succeed, the source adds, if the hostages are freed, security measures for the south are formulated, and terrorism is stamped out before a deadline of next October [tishrin al-muqbil]. Will Syria, with its established policies and known strategy, be able to do this?

According to the same source, Syria will find it difficult to secure the release of the hostages without Iranian cooperation. Iran may have its own calculations which differ from those of Syria. Iran fears a Syrian-Iraqi rapprochement following the release of the hostages, and it may act to stave off such a development.

Syria also cannot grant security safeguards to Israel unless this falls within the framework of a comprehensive solution put forward at an international conference. The presence of numerous resistance groups in the south further complicates Syria's task in this regard.

As for clamping down on terrorism and terrorists, this may be feasible in the areas under Syrian control; however, terrorism would only move to other areas. Syria would then either consider its mission accomplished, or it would have to expand its areas of influence, with all the dangers inherent in such a move.

Karami on Ministerial Committee Meeting, Security

NC081328 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1200 GMT 8 Jul 86

[Remarks by Prime Minister Rashid Karami in response to questions by unidentified correspondents following a Ministerial Committee meeting at Karami's home on 8 July — recorded]

[Text] The Ministerial Committee has discussed current developments in the country, particularly those taking place on the security, economic, and social levels. Members of the committee also reviewed the political aspects of the present situation, as well as what can be achieved in this domain now that the security plan has been successfully implemented.

It goes without saying that the Ministerial Committee takes great interest in matters which are of concern to all citizens. We will continue to follow up the implementation of the security plan until the situation settles down completely in a way that will realize our citizens' hopes and wishes. These are the topics which were discussed at today's Ministerial Committee meeting.

[Question] It has been reiterated that an expanded Islamic meeting will soon be held. Has an understanding been reached on a date for this meeting yet?

[Karami] We are prepared to respond to an invitation when it is issued by the people concerned. As for myself, I am not aware of contacts taking place in this regard.

[Question] Mr Prime Minister, will the security plan include the road to the south?

[Karami] Undoubtedly, since security is demanded by everyone and for all areas. We must eventually expand the security plan to include all these areas so that they may enjoy its good effects; that is, if we can do so.

Phalangist Party Leader on Boycott, Syrians

NC071325 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
1115 GMT 7 Jul 86

[Excerpts] At a meeting of the Phalangist Party's Political Bureau and Central Council today, party leader Dr George Sa'adah said that Lebanon is suffering from a terrible lack of confidence in the prime minister and certain Cabinet ministers. These people have declared a boycott against the government and its citizens in a way which is unacceptable as far as national responsibility is concerned. He stated: I fear that this is meant to partition and fragment Lebanon and its sovereignty.

Dr Sa'adah questioned the decision of the prime minister and the so-called Ministerial Committee to send the Foreign Ministry's director of political affairs on a tour of the Gulf region following the president's recent visits. The tour by the Foreign Ministry official only means continuing domestic fragmentation, he added, and the possibility of increasing its dangers on Arab and foreign levels. The decision by President al-Jumayyil to tour the Gulf was prompted by a widespread and nonfactional belief in the need to increase efforts toward finding a solution and to revive Arab and international interest in Lebanon and the legitimate Lebanese Government. These recent moves and positions, however, will only increase the negative aspects that govern Lebanon's economic and financial position, he affirmed decreasing the rate of the Lebanese pound and leading to a continual deterioration of the various economic sectors. [passage omitted]

Regarding his recent visit to Ihdin, Dr Sa'adah emphasized that both he and former President Franjiyah were in complete agreement on a number of basic principles. He said that efforts are currently underway to broaden the scope of this meeting in order to reach agreement and attain unity among the Christian leaders as a prelude to comprehensive national dialogue.

Dr Sa'adah reiterated that the situation in West Beirut is abnormal and that the reentry of Syrian forces into the city was not a Lebanese decision. He said: What we want is to return the security role to the legitimate Lebanese security forces alone. He asserted that the Chamber of Deputies is the backbone of Lebanon, its regime, and its existence. The Phalangist Party will continue to support this body, he emphasized.

'Secret Contacts' To Release French Hostages

NC090520 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0445 GMT 9 Jul 86

[Text] Quoting a diplomatic source, *Al-Nahar* reports today that secret contacts have recently been undertaken to secure the release of French hostages in Lebanon. According to this source, French diplomat Marcel Carton, who was kidnapped in West Beirut on 12 March 1985, might be set free this week.

Sha'ban Receives Iranian Government Delegation

NC090609 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT 9 Jul 86

[Text] A delegation from the Islamic Republic of Iran visited the Islamic Unification Movement [IUM] leader, Shaykh Sa'id Sha'ban. The delegation included Mohammad Lavasani, Foreign Ministry director general for foreign relations; the foreign minister's adviser on financial and administrative affairs; and the Iranian ambassador in Syria. The meeting was attended by Malik 'Allush, IUM official in charge of political affairs, who later stated that the two sides had exchanged views on the political and security situation in Lebanon. Both parties expressed support for the West Beirut security plan and affirmed the need to strengthen the unity of Islamic ranks in Lebanon.

Amal Holds Palestinian, Kidnaps Socialist

NC082007 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1945 GMT 8 Jul 86

[Text] In West Beirut, Amal Movement gunmen arrested a Palestinian who belongs to Fatah's Force 17 near the entrace to the Burj al-Barajinah camp at 1800 today. The gunmen took him to the movement's central security headquarters in Bi'r Hasan.

Meanwhile, Amal Movement gunmen, followers of Abu Khadr, kidnapped socialist Jihad Mahrum on Abu Shakir square at approximately 2115 today and took him in an orange BMW to an undisclosed destination.

Resistance Man Killed in Israeli Attack

NC081901 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1530 GMT 8 Jul 86

[Text] In the indomitable south, national resistance fighters have carried out three attacks on the positions of the occupation forces and their agents in Al-Tayyibah on the border, Rshaf in the central sector, and 'Alman in Al-Nabatiyah area. The Lebanese resistance has also announced that a resistance fighter was martyred and two others wounded when the enemy discovered one of its groups outside the town of Bayt Lif and attacked it with tank and shell fire for about 2 hours.

'Responsible Source' Condemns Madrid Airport Attack

JN081437 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
1415 GMT 8 Jul 86

[Text] A responsible source has stated the following:

Syria has always supported acts of national struggle for freedom and against aggression and occupation. Syria regards the people's struggle for liberation and dignity as a basic, legitimate right. Syria will continue to support all kinds of struggle against the occupying enemies. However, Syria always distinguishes between struggle against the enemy and acts that are opposed to struggle and its aims. Therefore, Syria condemned and continues to condemn such acts which serve the imperialist and Zionist policy of branding national struggle as terrorism, and of confusing world public opinion regarding the forces of freedom and progress.

The Madrid airport explosion and similar acts greatly harm the pan-Arab struggle and the Arab nation, and therefore, will always be condemned by Syria. Although Israel has been accustomed to practicing acts of terrorism and to holding world public opinion in contempt, Arab strugglers should not imitate it in this regard.

Israeli Claims Denied

JN081912 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
1530 GMT 8 Jul 86

[Palestine Broadcast: "Talk of the Return"]

[Text] Brother strugglers, this week's issue of *Al-Tala'i* magazine, organ of the Al-Sa'iqah organization and the PLO, was published in Damascus today. The editorial in this week's issue, which is headlined "Madrid Airport After Heathrow Airport," says: Yitzhaq Rabin, minister of the enemy army, claimed that Syria is behind the explosive charge which detonated at the Madrid airport. This is the same allegation voiced by Yitzhaq Rabin after an alleged operation at the British Heathrow Airport a few months ago. This is an operation that did not occur. It was said that it was aimed against an Israeli El Al plane.

What Israel wants here is absolutely clear. First, it wants to brand Syria as a terrorist before world public opinion. Second, Israel wants to fabricate in advance a group of pretexts to justify an aggression against Syria for which it is awaiting an appropriate time. As for terrorism, Syria has frequently announced that it is against terrorism. Syria did not make this announcement to satisfy the United States and Israel or out of fear, but because Syria actually rejects terrorism, stemming from the fact that Arab rights — which Syria represents — do not need terrorism to be achieved but in fact contradict terrorism. Moreover, while condemning terrorism Syria affirms that U.S. imperialism and Zionist Israel are the hotbed and source of international terrorism. To make things clearer, Syria, while condemning terrorism, always distinguishes between terrorism and the national struggle against colonialism and racism; that is, while rejecting terrorism Syria accepts and supports the Arab resistance against Israel whether in occupied Palestine or in Lebanon. Therefore, Israel's terrorist accusation against Syria is only a bubble which founders and disappears on the rock of the Syrian Arab commitment to support every Arab resistance against Zionism and every resistance against imperialism and Zionism throughout the world.

This is our comment on the silly charge of terrorism which Israel attempts in vain to accuse Syria of before the world. However, this same charge — the alleged terrorism — is an Israeli justification to launch an aggression against Syria. In this regard, we remind Israel of an important issue: Any country in the world can launch aggression against another country. However, no country can guarantee the result in its favor. What is more important is that not all aggressors are able to bear the results of a war. Israel itself has proven that it is the entity in the world least able to bear the developments, losses, and woes of wars. This happened in the October [1973] liberation war which was remembered by the entire world last week or the week before last when the British military magazine *Jane's* published a study saying that Syria will initiate a war against Israel to liberate the occupied Syrian Arab Golan heights. This is Syria's stand. After this, let Israel explain aggression and terrorism as it wishes.

Talas Meets Soviet Air Defense Forces Official

JN072024 Damascus Television Service in Arabic
2000 GMT 7 Jul 86

[Text] General Mustafa Talas, deputy commander in chief of the Army and Armed Forces, deputy prime minister, and defense minister, received Colonel General Yurasov, first deputy commander in chief of the Soviet Air Defense Forces, and his delegation this evening. The meeting was attended by General Hikmat al-Shihabi, chief of staff of the Army and Armed Forces; the commander of the Air Force; the deputy commander of the Air Force for air defense affairs; and the chief of staff of the Air Force. The talks revolved around the current situation and cooperation relations between the two friendly armies and ways to promote them. The current situation in the region was also reviewed. Col Gen Yurasov and his delegation arrived in Damascus at noon today on an official and cordial visit to Syria lasting several days.

Al-Asad Congratulates Reagan on Independence Day

JN031436 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1408 GMT 3 Jul 86

[Text] Damascus, 3 Jul (SANA) — President Hafiz al-Asad has sent the following cable of congratulations to President Ronald Reagan on the anniversary of America's independence:

On the anniversary of the U.S. declaration of independence, it gives me pleasure to send to you and to the American people my sincerest and hearfelt congratulations. Independence is closely connected with the liberation of land, the right of self-determination, and freedom from colonialism and occupation. I believe all those who struggled for independence must sympathize with peoples who are struggling against occupation and for their liberty and self-determination and must adhere to the supreme ideals whose application leads to realizing peace and justice. I hope these supreme ideals are the basis of relations between our two countries.

Please accept my wishes of good health for you and prosperity for the American people.

Reportage on Visit of Lebanese Parliamentary Group

Received by Khaddam

JN051136 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 5 Jul 86

[Text] Damascus — Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam received Husayn al-Husayni, speaker of the Lebanese Chamber of Deputies, at 1000 today. The talks revolved around the current situation in Lebanon and the successful implementation of the security plan in Beirut. Khaddam affirmed that Syria will help in every possible way to achieve security in Beirut.

Speaker Meets Counterpart

JN051646 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1515 GMT 5 Jul 86

[Text] Husayn al-Husayni, Lebanese Chamber of Deputies speaker, has hailed Syria's prominent and distinguished role in the Arab region under President Hafiz al-Asad, as well as its huge efforts to support all important Arab causes and to achieve Arab liberation objectives. He also lauded in particular Syria's great endeavors and sacrifices for the sake of our people in Lebanon to extricate them from their tribulation on the basis of a national accord.

Al-Husayni asserted that Lebanon and its coming generations, as well as the Arab nation, will always remember the beneficent, merciful hand of struggler President Hafiz al-Asad, who has exerted every effort and capability to keep Lebanon an Arab country whose people and land are united and also to keep it independent and an effective member of the one Arab family, whose sons are united by amity, cooperation, and harmony in the march of construction, progress, and liberation.

This came when People's Assembly Speaker Mahmud al-Zu'bi received Al-Husayni at noon today. During the meeting, they dealt with a number of current issues and stands toward them, particularly developments in the Lebanese arena and the implementation and success of the recent Damascus agreement under Syria's kind patronage.

Al-Zu'bi and Al-Husayni also discussed a number of bilateral parliamentary affairs and issues of mutual interest, as well as coordination of stands. Talks also dealt with a comprehenisve assessment of the work of the council of the organization of parliamentarians of Arab origin, which was held in Brazil recently, and its results. They also discussed ways to promote the work of this organization and its plans for the forthcoming phase to achieve its objectives in the service of Arab causes, particularly in countries where Arab expatriates are present. They also discussed consolidating ties with Arab expatriates so they will be good messengers for their nation while combining their love for their Arabism with their love for their new homelands and societies.

Reportage on Visit of Tunisian Assembly President

Received by Al-Asad

JN031143 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 3 Jul 86

[Text] President Hafiz al-Asad received Tunisian National Assembly President Mahmoud Messadi and the accompanying delegation at 1200 today. Attending the meeting were People's Assembly Speaker Mahmud al-Zu'bi and the Tunisian ambassador in Damascus.

Further on Al-Asad Meeting

JN040627 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 4 Jul 86

[Text] President Hafiz al-Asad has emphasized Syria's eagerness to consolidate bonds and relations with fraternal Arab countries in all fields in a manner that will serve the Arab struggle against Zionism and imperialism. President al-Asad said this when he received Tunisian National Assembly President Mahmoud Messadi and the accompanying delegation yesterday.

The meeting was attended by People's Assembly Speaker Mahmud al-Zu'bi and the Tunisian ambassador in Damascus. The discussion during the meeting dealt with the current state of affairs in the Arab homeland and relations between the two fraternal countries.

Departs 4 July

JN041550 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1515 GMT 4 Jul 86

[Excerpt] Damascus — Tunisian National Assembly President Mahmoud Messadi and the delegation accompanying him left Damascus today following a weeklong visit to Syria. He was seen off at Damascus International Airport by Mahmud al-Zu'bi, People's Assembly speaker; several People's Assembly members; the People's Assembly secretary general; 'Abd al-Rahman Burawi, secretary general of the Arab Parliamentary Union; Mohamed al-Sharif, the Tunisian ambassador to Damascus; and the embassy staff. [passage omitted]

Reportage on Visit of Cypriot Parliamentary Group

Arrives 6 July

JN061230 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 6 Jul 86

[Text] Vasos Lissaridhis, president of the Cypriot House of Representatives, arrived in Damascus today at the head of a parliamentary delegation on an official visit to Syria. He was welcomed at Damascus International Airport by People's Assembly Speaker Mahmud al-Zu'bi; a number of Assembly members; Sulayman Haddad, head of the Europe Department at the Foreign Ministry; and Yeoryios Likourgos, Cypriot ambassador in Damascus.

In a statement to SANA, Lissaridhis expressed pleasure at visiting Syria at the invitation of the People's Assembly speaker. He said that this visit falls within the framework of reinforcing relations between the two countries on all levels, especially on the parliamentary level. He said that these historic relations are deep-rooted and constantly developing to serve the common interests of the two friendly peoples. He also praised Syria's distinguished role under President Hafiz al-Asad in the region as well as Syria's liberation course, its firm, courageous stand against the challenges and hostile designs. He affirmed that Syria's struggle on all fronts should be an example to be followed by all the nations which aspire to a better, brighter future. He expressed the hope that the visit and the talks he will hold will achieve positive, fruitful results and further reinforce and fortify their joint struggle.

The Cypriot parliamentary delegation comprises prominent members from the Democratic Rally, the Socialist, and the Communist Parties.

Received by Khaddam

JN070913 Damascus SANA in Arabic 0835 GMT 7 Jul 86

[Text] Damascus, 7 Jul (SANA) — Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam received Vasos Lissaridhis, president of the Cypriot House of Representatives, and the accompanying delegation at 1000 today. The meeting was attended by Shakir al-Sa'id, president of the Arab and Foreign Affairs Committee at the People's Assembly. The talks revolved around the current situation in the region.

Legislative Talks Begin

JN081503 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1315 GMT 8 Jul 86

[Excerpt] Damascus, 8 Jul (SANA) — A round of talks was held at noon today between a People's Assembly delegation led by Mahmud al-Zu'bi and a Cypriot House of Representatives delegation led by Vasos Lissaridhis. The Cypriot ambassador to Damascus also attended the talks.

The talks dealt with relations between the two friendly countries, the situation in the region, and the two countries' positions on what is taking place in the region. At the beginning of the session, the People's Assembly speaker welcomed the Cypriot House of Representatives president and praised Cyprus' stands on Arab issues and support for the Arab people's just struggle. Al-Zu'bi then viewed the economic, agricultural, industrial, and cultural situation in Syria, pointing out that Syria is shouldering development and defense responsibilities in addition to the burdens of confronting the imperialist and Zionist schemes aimed at aggression, domination, and hegemony. He also referred to Syria's firm stand alongside the Arab people in Lebanon and its determination to help them restore tranquility and stability in Lebanon, achieve national harmony, and liberate their land from the Israeli occupation.

Al-Zu'bi gave a detailed review of the achievements realized in Syria at all levels, especially after the corrective movement led by President Hafiz al-Asad. He referred to the People's Assembly's activities and relations with parliamentary unions, leagues, and organizations throughout the world, stressing the importance of continuing to promote and bolster the relations of cooperation between the two countries, particularly at the parliamentary level.

Vasos Lissardhis, president of the Cypriot House of Representatives, expressed his thanks for the hospitality he and his delegation were accorded during their visit to the country. He praised Syria's positions and its brave struggle on all fronts under President Hafiz al-Asad, affirming his country's support for this struggle. He also emphasized that the two countries' relations at party, governmental, and parliamentary levels are historical, and continue to develop to serve the two peoples' interests. He referred to the importance of exchanging expertise and delegations, and coordinating parliamentary stands on all issues of joint interest.

Lissaridhis pointed out that his visit to Syria bears special meaning since it provided him with the opportunity to establish intimate relations with the Syrian People's Assembly and his dear friend Mahmud al-Zu'bi, and since it acquainted him with new, unexpected surprises — such as the great developments in all fields — despite his numerous previous visits to Syria. He said that the Syrian people are more determined, revolutionary, militant, and supportive of all forces of liberation in the world under a brave, wise leader who does not struggle for Syria's sake alone, but for the sake of peoples struggling for their just causes. He affirmed that the Syrian Arab people's struggle is just and part of the struggle of the region's peoples and the forces of liberation in the entire world. [passage omitted]

Received by Al-Asad

JN071024 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1015 GMT 7 Jul 86

[Text] President Hafiz al-Asad received Vasos Lissaridhis, president of the Cypriot House of Representatives, at 1200 today. The meeting was attended by People's Assembly Speaker Mahmud al-Zu'bi. The talks revolved around the situation in the Mediterranean Basin and issues of mutual interest.

Cypriot Finance Minister Signs Protocol, Departs

JN031616 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1515 GMT 3 Jul 86

[Text] Damascus — Dr Sabah Baqjaji, minister of state for planning affairs, and Cypriot Finance Minister Khristos Mavrellis today signed two documents for joint cooperation between Syria and Cyprus. The two ministers also exchanged speeches expressing pleasure at the results of the meetings of the Syrian-Cypriot joint committee for economic and scientific cooperation. They affirmed the importance of bolstering bilateral relations of friendship and cooperation in all fields to meet the joint interests of the two countries.

The Cypriot minister expressed his thanks and appreciation to the Syrian Arab Republic — president, government, and people — for their gracious hospitality and welcome and praised Syria's stand supporting the search for a peaceful and just solution to the Cypriot issue.

Cypriot Finance Minister Mavrellis and his accompanying delegation left Damascus for Cyprus this afternoon, concluding a 5-day visit to Syria during which he met with the prime minister, the deputy prime minister for economic affairs, and the ministers of planning, economy, supply, tourism, and transport. He also chaired the Cypriot side during meetings of the third session of the joint committee for economic, scientific, technical, and industrial cooperation, which reuslted in the signing of a new protocol for bilateral cooperation. He was seen off at Damascus International Airport by the minister of state for planning affairs.

Al-Asad Receives Greek Prime Minister's Wife

JN081513 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1340 GMT 8 Jul 86

[Text] Damascus, 8 Jul (SANA) — At noon today, President Hafiz al-Asad received Mrs Margaret Papandreou, the Greek prime minister's wife, on the occasion of her visit to Syria. Mrs Papandreou conveyed Andreas Papandreou's warm greetings to the president who thanked her and asked her to convey his warm greetings to mr Papandreou.

Their talks dealt with the world women's peace initiative, which Mrs Papandreou came to discuss with the General Women's Federation in Syria. The president praised this initiative, which is aimed at serving mankind through working toward saving it from a nuclear disaster, and expressed his support for it. Mrs Papandreou raised the issue of the hostages in Lebanon. It was agreed that Syria and Greece would carry out future contacts in this regard in accordance with the new developments.

Khaddam Leaves for Vienna Meeting on Namibia

JN070920 Damascus SANA in Arabic 0840 GMT 7 Jul 86

[Text] Damascus, 7 Jul (SANA) — Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam left for Vienna today to participate in the international symposium on the independence of Namibia at the invitation of the UN secretary general. The vice president will deliver a speech before the symposium in which ten political figures from various parts of the world will participate.

Ba'th Party Delegation Returns From Warsaw

JN071952 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1600 GMT 7 Jul 86

[Text] Damascus, 7 Jul (SANA) — Comrade Fayiz al-Nasir, member of the Ba'th Party regional command, and his delegation returned to Damascus from Warsaw today after participating in the 10th Congress of the Polish United Workers Party [PZPR]. Comrade al-Nasir read the Ba'th Party speech at the congress in which he conveyed greetings from the Ba'th Party and President Hafiz al-Asad to the PZPR leadership and the Polish people.

During their stay in Warsaw, the delegation met with Comrade Jozef Czyrek, member of the party's Politburo and Central Committee secretary.

Majid Abu Salih Named Ambassador to Jordan

JN090808 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 9 Jul 86 p 1

[Text] Amman — Foreign Ministry sources have said that the Syrian Government has recommended that Majid Abu Salih, the Syrian charge d'affaires in Amman, be appointed Syria's ambassador to the Royal Court.

The Jordanian Government had appointed 'Ali Khurays as Jordan's ambassador in Damascus.

Peres Said To Reveal U.S., Israel Behind Attacks

JN040811 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT 4 Jul 86

[From the press review]

[Text] *Al-Ba'th* comments on enemy Prime Minister Shim'on Peres' threats and the psychological warfare he is waging. *Al-Ba'th* says: Officials in the Zionist entity have gotten accustomed to making threats and holding Syria responsible for the absence of security and peace in the Middle East. However, the threats made by Shim'on Peres this time are of a different nature. He did not limit his threats to one aspect, that of armed aggression, but volunteered to reveal the intentions which explain part of the many U.S. conspiracies against Syria. With his threats, Peres explicitly revealed the joint responsibility of U.S. and Zionist intelligence services for the series of terrorist operations against civilians in Syria.

Al-Ba'th adds: Perhaps Peres, like other Zionist officials, has become convinced that it will be too difficult to tackle Syria this time with the usual Zionist method, that of resorting to force. That's why Peres resorted to threats, but in a new way, which shows that the two strategic allies, the United States and Israel, will resort to some of their agents in the region, as past experience has shown, when the two allies exploited the Muslim Brotherhood gangs and the fascist regime in Baghdad to harm Syria and its steadfastness.

Al-Ba'th stresses that the experience of steadfastness against all challenges has made this country a force whose decisionmaking is to be reckoned with and that all the schemes and hostile plans concocted by Syria's enemies will not find any open door or any mercy on the Golan Heights.

Al-Ba'th says: Peres' expressions are a warning to all the Arabs because Zionism, which is basking in the shade of the United States, tries to make the Arabs believe that Zionist infiltration has even reached Arab circles. This proves that the Zionists use such expressions within the framework of the psychological warfare they are waging against the Arabs in the hope that this method will defeat the Arabs from within.

Al-Ba'th concludes: Now that Peres has invented a new method for threatening Syria, he has to wait for something for which neither he nor his allies have made calculations — to personally realize that Syria is not a morsel that can easily be swallowed.

U.S. Official's Visit to Israeli Settlement Decried

JN071702 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
1530 GMT 7 Jul 86

[Palestine Broadcast: "Talk of the Return"]

[Text] Brother strugglers: The U.S. Embassy in the Zionist entity, in other words, the United States itself, has committed a heinous new crime against the Palestinian Arab people and their firm, inalienable national rights. Recently, a senior official of the U.S. Embassy in Israel, who might be the U.S. Embassy counselor [mustashar], paid a visit to the malicious Zionist concentration in the occupied Palestine Arab city of Hebron — a concentration which, since its establishment, has been a den from which Zionist snakes crawl to bite the sons of our Palestinian Arab people in the Palestinian city of Hebron. By concentration we mean the so-called Zionist settlement of Qiryat Arba', which lies in the center of the occupied Palestinian Arab city of Hebron.

This U.S. diplomat did not, naturally, ignore what he had done. He claimed that his visit did not have any political significance and that it was merely a visit to some Zionist Americans residing in the settlement of Qiryat Arba'. Certainly this U.S. official lied when he denied the political significance of this conspiratorial visit. His visit to the malicious Zionist concentration in the occupied Palestinian city of Hebron, in other words, his visit to the settlement of Qiryat Arba', means that the United States supports the Zionist invasion that always aspires to be an invasion in the name of settlements in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. In other words, the United States adopts and supports Israel's naming of the West Bank and Gaza Strip Judaea and Samaria. The U.S. diplomat's visit confirms this. If there are some who imagine that we are biased against the U.S. stand, then we remind them of U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz' explanation of President Reagan's plan which frankly provides for the need to retain the Zionist settlements in the West Bank and Gaza Strip as well as for keeping Jerusalem a united city — according to the Israeli expression — in other words, to keep it Judaized under the yoke of Israeli annexation.

This U.S. crime against the Arab nation is a U.S.-Israeli violation, or even cancellation, of the Palestinian Arab people's right to their national land. This matter requires a U.S. explanation. At present, we are content with a word of explanation because some official Arab circles that are biased toward the United States still become intolerant when asked to take a firm stand, or even a slightly firm stand, on greater Israel, known as the United States.

TISHRIN on Syrian, Israeli Roles in Lebanon

JN070905 Damascus SANA in Arabic 0750 GMT 7 Jul 86

[Text] Damascus, 7 Jul (SANA) — In its commentary today, *Tishrin* says that the security plan for Beirut which is being implemented with direct Syrian assistance has led to some sort of satisfaction now that armed manifestations have disappeared and nationalist parties all agree that things are progressing with good intentions and on the right path. This is because the security of Beirut is part of Lebanon's security and the Lebanese security is part of Syria's security and the common denominator of all this is Arab security. The paper adds: in order to clarify and examine this matter, we need to accurately evaulate the Arab reality and Arab policies, whose owners have turned their backs on the joint Arab interests and the unification of Arab efforts to serve the Palestine question. This state of affairs reflects the necessity and importance of Arab security which was repeatedly violated and rindiculed by Israel with U.S. support. The paper says: As Lebanese accord begins to loom throughout Lebanon, Israel has begun to sound the alarm to the tune of raising slogans as to how to reply to the Syrian advance. The paper explains that Syria fully realizes that its role in Lebanon will not be at the expense of Lebanese nationalist role, nor will it replace this important and essential role. The Lebanese crisis began when the enemies of the Arabs began to interfere in the internal Lebanese affairs. It began when Israel tried to manipulate this crisis and the Israeli-Western imperialist attempt continued through to the armed invasion. Israeli interference has not yet ended. *Tishrin* concludes: This Israeli game will not end unless it is completely blocked, whether on the level of defeating a number of ridiculous wagers by some sides, or by possessing a real deterrant force against Israel that would force it to reassess its calculations in Lebanon and the region. However, the Lebanese crisis must not be allowed to remain a bleeding wound until the strategic balance with Israel is finally achieved. The Lebanese crisis must be resolved in a way that would make all of Lebanon one of the strategic confrontation positions against Israel and serve the interest of a united Arab Lebanon.

On Success of Damascus Agreement

JN060600 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
0415 GMT 6 Jul 86

[Excerpt][Passage omitted] In a comment, *Tishrin* deals with the Lebanese issue. It says: It is clear that the determined security step in Beirut is an important one on a path full of obstacles and plots. Yet this path is the shortest one to reach the real Lebanon. The Lebanese people are today called upon to move on to the next step with the aim of preparing the atmosphere to reunify Lebanon, formulate the best relations among its various groups, and lay the firm political, social, and economic bases that will guarantee its steadfastness vis-a-vis the plots of Israel and the United States. This emphasizes the implementation of the tripartite Damascus agreement, which is the national framework for a comprehensive solution. This will end the abnormal sociopolitical situation and put things in order. Concluding, *Tishrin* says: Now that the Lebaense people have successfully started to implement the Beirut security plan under Syrian auspices, they can always rely on Syria to realize the unity of the Lebanese people and territory. Syria will continue to extend all possible assistance until this noble, sublime aim is realized. [passage omitted]

Tabah Talks End; Cautious Optimism Expressed

TA081815 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1605 GMT 8 Jul 86

[Text] The round of Tabah talks has ended in Jerusalem and the Egyptian team in Cairo will be informed of the conclusions tomorrow. At today's talks the Israeli and Egyptian [as heard] delegations began discussing moves to take place after the arbitration. Our political correspondent 'Oded Ben-'Ami reports from the studio:

For the first time in today's talks the Israeli and U.S. teams began discussing arrangements in Tabah after the arbitration concludes. The intention is to come to an arrangement that will enable the side that loses in the arbitration to enter Tabah and use the installations there. As for the texting of the arbitral compromis, for the time being the Israeli team has concluded its discussions on the new U.S. proposal brought by Abraham Sofaer that relates to the appendix to the arbitral compromis. The Israeli position is to be given to the Egyptian team in Cairo tomorrow; developments in the texting of the document now depend on the Egyptians' reaction. It is not yet clear whether Abraham Sofaer will go to Cairo tonight, or perhaps tomorrow morning. He may not go at all, but his deputy, (Alan Kretchko), will make the trip to Cairo and bring the answers to Jerusalem. This evening Abraham Sofaer went to the Prime Minister's Office and reported to Shim'on Peres on the conclusion of the talks with the Israeli team. Optimism is still being expressed by the Israeli delegation, although it is very cautious optimism. If the answers from Cairo are positive, the texting of the arbitral compromis may be completed next week.

Further Reportage on Shin Bet Affair, Investigation

POST on Moda'i Affidavit

TA080620 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 8 Jul 86 pp 1, 8

[Reprt by Barbara Amouyal]

[Text] Justice Minister Yitzhaq Moda'i yesterday responded to a High Court order by presenting the details leading up to the June 25 presidential pardon of General Security Service (Shin Bet) Chief Avraham Shalom and three top aides.

Later in the day, Moda'i told *The Jerusalem Post* that he recommended suspending all Cabinet or public debate on the Shin Bet matter until after the High Court rules on the orders nisi that it has before it on the affair.

"I am not a party to suggestions that the government preempt the court's decision by calling for a judicial commission of inquiry," he said.

According to the Moda'i affidavit, co-signed by senior Justice Minister adviser Dr. Yosef Ben-Or, Prime Minister Shim'on Peres had known of Shalom's intention to resign from the Shin Bet in exchange for a presidential pardon before senior Cabinet members learned of the option at a June 24 meeting in the Prime Minister's Office.

Moda'i's statement seemed to contradict Peres' Knesset statement last Monday in which the premier claimed he had been taken by surprise by attorney Ram Kaspi's proposal of resignation in exchange for pardon.

Moda'i was brief and vague in his affidavit to the High Court, which is hearing five petitions challenging the presidential pardons and the postponement of a police investigation into the Shin Bet affair. He wrote:

"During the course of discussion in which the attorney-general said that (former attorney-general Yitzhaq Zamir's) complaint needs to be investigated by a judicial commission of inquiry, we were informed by lawyer Ram Kaspi that the Shin Bet chief, after receiving permission from the prime minister, had gone to the president because he had decided to resign and to ask the president to pardon him and three other Shin Bet men."

Moda'i did not specify how long in advance Peres had been aware of the impending resignation/pardon deal.

Only after Kaspi had informed the ministers of Shalom's plans had the justice minister, accompanied by Kaspi and attorney Ya'aqov Ne'eman, approached the president to discuss the matter, Moda'i worte.

According to the affidavit, Herzog had told Moda'i that he would be willing to consider pardoning Shalom and the three other Shin Bet men if: a) the Cabinet, after thorough debate, recommended such a move; b) the Cabinet received an opinion from the attorney-general on the president's authority to pardon persons not yet convicted; and c) the justice minister, after consultations with the attorney-general, recommended such a move.

After hearing Herzog's response, Moda'i wrote, he had asked Peres to convene the Cabinet. It was at the June 25 Cabinet meeting that Harish had ruled that Herzog could pardon those not yet convicted. Shortly afterwards, according to the affidavit, the Cabinet decided to recommend presidential pardons.

Following the Cabinet meeting, Moda'i, at 9 a. m. on June 25, submitted to Herzog submitted his personal recommendation, the Cabinet decision, and Harish's opinion [sentence as published].

Speaking during a visit to the National Labour Court in Jerusalem yesterday, Moda'i said it was "unwise" to try to predict the High Court's decision on a police investigation into the Shin Bet affair.

We will abide by court procedure and submit all necessary affidavits," Moda'i said, referring to next week's High Court hearing of show-cause orders (nisi) explaining why a Shin Bet investigation should not take place.

The High Court will decide whether to issue a show-cause order — a move that may eventually render President Herzog's pardons invalid — after studying the justice minister's affidavit and other affidavits to be submitted today by Shin Bet attorneys Dov Weisglass and Yig'al Arnon.

Campaign Against Shalom

TA071220 Tel Aviv HADASHOT in Hebrew 7 Jul 86 p 3

[Report by Ilan Kfir and Pe'er-Li Shahar]

[Text] Over the weekend, associates of Vice Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir decided to step up their campaign against Avraham Shalom, the head of the Shin Bet, and portray him as unreliable, unstable, and a liar. Shamir's associates will resort to Shalom's past in the PALMACH [Hagana's pre-state strike force] to argue that he is a MAPAMnik with leftist inclinations, in a bid to sabotage Shalom's letter to the president and his statement in the pardon request to the effect that he had acted with authorization and permission. It has been learned that Shamir has been exerting pressure on Shalom to dissuade him from launching a personal campaign against him.

This is how members of Shamir's close cricle, headed by Deputy Foreign Minister Roni Milo, are trying to strengthen Shamir's case that he had known nothing about the affair until he heard about it from the prime minister. Shamir's associates are uncertain of whether to await the ruling of the High Court of Justice or to precede it with a counteroffensive, including a possible television appearance by Shamir on the "Moqed" program in which he would give his own version of the affair.

Hadashot has learned that there has been a rapprochement between Shamir and Arens following the tension created in the wake of Shamir's remarks that Arens had known about the affair and had decided on the establishment of the Zore'a and Blatman Commissions contrary to his position.

In reaction, associates of the Shin Bet director told ministers that in the affidavit he will submit to the High Court of Justice tomorrow Shalom will elaborate on the responsibility of the political level led by Shamir. According to them, the Shin Bet director will provide details about the instructions he received directly from Shamir.

In a meeting of the Alignment ministers held yesterday at the Prime Minister's Office, Minister Bar-Lev said the police would have no choice other than to go ahead and investigate the Shin Bet affair in view of one of the appeals submitted to the High Court of Justice against halting the police investigation following the pardon granted to the Shin Bet director and three senior officials. Increasing support for the establishment of a state judicial commission of inquiry emerged in the meeting. Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin, however, persisted in his opposition to the establishment of such a commission.

Over the last few days, Attorney General Yosef Harish has been holding consultations with the prime minister, the vice prime minister, and the justice minister with a view to drafting the government's response to the court's order. *Hadashot* has learned that in his meetings with leaders of the political echelon and senior ministers, Harish raised the possibility of setting up a judicial commission of inquiry even before the High Court of Justice has issued its ruling to preclude a possible reprimand or denunciation by the Supreme Court. The prime minister and most of the Alignment ministers tend to accept such a move on the part of Harish, while Shamir and most of the Likud ministers bitterly oppose it. It has been learned that if the attorney general proposes the establishment of a state judicial commission of inquiry such a proposal would be supported by at least two senior Likud ministers.

Cabinet Secretary Yosi Beilin yesterday refused to sign the government's affidavit in response to the High Court of Justice. Beilin told *Hadashot*: "The justice minister is the one who has to respond to the court. When the Justice Ministry approached me and asked me whether I would be prepared to sign the affidavit instead of the justice minister I replied that I could see no reason why I should. I do not see any room for surprise in this matter, I was not told that this is the procedure. The instances in which former Cabinet Secretaries Arye Na'or and Dan Meridor signed such affidavits to the High Court on behalf of the government are not clear to me."

Shamir met yesterday with Knesset Members [MK's] Dan Meridor and Ehud Olmert, who are lawyers, and Deputy Foreign Minister Roni Milo to consult with them about the affidavit he is supposed to submit to the court next Tuesday. He also conferred with the attorney general on the issue.

Shamir conferred with the MK's because they are attorneys and, being members of the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee, they are by law entitled to know about confidential matters related to the Shin Bet affair. It has been reported that Peres and Shamir may hold a meeting today on the eve of the presentation of Shalom's affidavit to the court tomorrow.

Shamir Interviewed

TA080845 Tel Aviv HADASHOT in Hebrew 8 Jul 86 p 3

[Vice Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir "interviewed by Ran Edelist in the upcoming issue of *Monitin*," — date and place not given]

[Text] [Edelist] Did you, back in 1983, issue an order that any terrorist who infiltrated Israel intending to carry out an attack and capture hostages to be used as bargaining chips should be killed?
[Shamir] That was not an order as such. There was a conversation, but this is not to say that if tomorrow you capture someone who had escaped or come out unscathed you should kill him. This should be the general idea in battle, but it does not mean: kill under any circumstances.

[Edelist] Was this a new policy?
[Shamir] It was not a new policy; it was horse trading.

[Edelist] How would you react if Peres should tell the commission of inquiry that during the transition period before his premiership he knew nothing about this case?
[Shamir] You can rest assured that Peres would not touch upon that. Anyway, the story has no importance and has nothing to do with the system.

[Edelist] So there was no order?

[Shamir] There was no order, we only talked about it. This could have been the prevailing mood, as so often happens on many occasions, but there was no such order.

[Edelist] And if Avraham Shalom is pressed hard, will he not pull some rabbit out of the hat?
[Shamir] He could do that, but the question is how true it would be. I want you to know that the men in the security service are courageous and sophisticated fighters, but they are not used to fighting for their own lives, and in the criminal sense, they are just like anyone else. I therefore say that they should not be pressured in that regard at all; in fact, this is what I said when the matter first surfaced, irrespective of what I knew or did not know.

[Edelist] At what stage were you briefed?
[Shamir] Depending on what briefing you mean. But, really, I have no intention of starting the investigation, or answering a commission of inquiry, through you.

[Edelist] But you are no fool. Is there any chance that an investigation, or a commission of inquiry, could be stopped?
[Shamir] If we overcome the media, we will be able to do that. That is all. Many such affairs happen in the world, but they are kept secret, and it is best that way.

[Edelist] Is this only something concocted by the press, or is the public to blame as well?
[Shamir] The media brought it to the public. Do you know that 90 percent of the public do not want to know anything about it, that they are fed up, and have no desire to know who killed whom? Completely uninterested. What do they care? They absolutely do not want to know.

[Edelist] Is that so?
[Shamir] But everyone knows instinctively that this dissection of the matter is harmful and damaging. Besides, what good would it do? Would it bring anyone back to life? They do not want it, and that is that!

[Edelist] But should the system itself also be kept in the dark?
[Shamir] Internally, lessons should be drawn. Look, the principle in such systems is that any report should be accurate and correct. When I worked there, I told my men: outwardly, and that meant anything really external, lie to everyone and about everything; but internally only the truth, and the whole truth, and nothing but the truth.

[Edelist] My question has to do with lies disseminated inside the system.
[Shamir] I did not say that; you did.

[Edelist] But Zore'a has confirmed this.
[Shamir] I do not know what Major General Zore'a said. I had no idea that Zore'a was misled, just as I did not know they wanted anything from Yitzhaq Mordekhay.

[Edelist] You did not know what they wanted from Yitzhaq Mordekhay?
[Shamir] I knew that he was being interrogated because of some beating up that he was involved in; that is all.

[Edelist] How would you have reacted had Yitzhaq Mordekhay been found guilty?
[Shamir] With deep concern, because I think no one should have been convicted! What happened there? Did he beat up the terrorists? And what if he did beat them some? After all, we only judged him for the beating up, that is all.

[Edelist] In other words, you either knew or understood that he would not be given a harsh sentence?
[Shamir] But Yitzhaq Mordekhay was only tried for the beating up. I had no idea at all that there was anything beyond the fact that he was suffering from pangs of a guilty conscience.

[Edelist] So what, in fact, did you know?
[Shamir] What did I know? I knew that there was some lynching there. All sorts of people beat up the two men: military personnel, policemen, Shin Bet people — how could you ever ascertain who beat them harder, or who caused their death? That is all.

[Edelist] That was the original Shin Bet version of 6 months ago.
[Shamir] This was also the version that I accepted — that there was lynching. We did not think that it was our job to examine and investigate whose hand dealt them the death blow.

[Edelist] But that would mean that a case of lynching would not have been investigated?
[Shamir] But the lynching was only the result of the disorder, the commotion and hullabaloo there. No one cordoned off the area or guarded it, and I believe someone was rebuked.

[Edelist] That was [former] commander of the Southern Command, Major General Bar-Kokhba.
[Shamir] Yes. That is all. I believed that all the others involved in the beating and in the atmosphere that prevailed there should not have been dealt with, that this was unnecessary. These men should be set free, and care should be taken that no such circumstances and commotion occur in similar cases.

[Edelist] How would you react if the public applies heavy pressure to you?
[Shamir] I am never pressured, I have a different disposition. One cannot press me to the wall when I am so sure of myself and of the justness of my cause. Then I feel that I am the strongest of them all, and that nothing can happen to me.

[Edelist] Will that be true even if Avraham Shalom pulls out a document on that meeting in 1983, for example?
[Shamir] He never raised any argument on the matter to my face. Supposing something did happen, can that be called killing everyone during a terrorist attack for the sake of capturing hostages for a trade-in? This is something different, here was lynching. So afterwards, one should report on it, tell what happened.

[Edelist] And what did happen?
[Shamir] But everyone today says that it does not matter that people were killed; what is important is what happened later, the testimonies and such. Is that not so? So it is clear that some form of lynching took place, and all the participants should be cleared.

[Edelist] But during all that time, Yitzhaq Mordekhay was standing trial.
[Shamir] That came later, and he, along with all the others who were charged with beating up people, stood trial.

[Edelist] What would have happened if he had been convicted?
[Shamir] Was he as guilty of beating up the men as the others?

[Edelist] But what if he, specifically, had been found guilty?
[Shamir] What has this got to do with me?

[Edelist] Since it bothers me, as a civilian, then surely you, as prime minister, must be bothered, too.
[Shamir] What could I have done? After all, I objected to all of them being investigated, including Mordekhay. I never showed any preference to him. He was the one who found himself on the scene of the action and who dealt blows. Mr Zamir and Mr Blatman, for some reason, picked on him and wanted him to be convicted of the killing. I do not understand why they did it, but I was not the judge and could not pull him out of their claws. I never thought that he, of all people...

[Edelist] He was the only one who admitted to having beaten them up.
[Shamir] So what could I do? I knew nothing about it.

[Edelist] Did this not smack of some scheme?
[Shamir] I do not know. I did not care what the others said. I knew that all of them were being interrogated.

[Edelist] In retrospect, would you have acted any differently?
[Shamir] What could I have done? I could do nothing. Perhaps I would have taken firmer measures against that man Zamir, and would have told him "go to hell." Perhaps I would have dismissed him there and then, when he started pestering. It was obvious that they were up to something and were picking on someone. There were plenty of soldiers and Shin Bet and police men, and even rank-and-file civilians who beat them up.

[Edelist] What or whom were they picking on?
[Shamir] I do not know. Why did they have to pick on Yitzhaq Mordekhay?

[Edelist] But he admitted to having dealt blows, while the others did not.
[Shamir] So is that reason enough to victimize him? When the judges rule incorrectly, can you do anything about that? What are all these people who put the Yitzhaq Mordekhay affair the focal point saying? They say the following: Some people knew who actually killed them, and they were interested in putting the entire blame on Mordekhay. I say: I was not among these people; among those people who knew who, more than anyone else, was responsible for the manslaughter. Therefore, I cannot be held responsible for the suffering Yitzhaq Mordekhay had gone through, either, and I say this whole business should be brought to its end.

[Edelist] How?
[Shamir] I believe that the pardon would be a perfect ending. If anyone was responsible, they have been pardoned. Then they resign, and finished. This would have been a perfect conclusion.

[Edelist] In other words, everything that happened subsequently was purely politics?
[Shamir] Why should politics come into the picture in the first place? What has this got to do with politics? It is a tragic event of the past, and that is it.

[Edelist] Will it have a detrimental effect on the Likud?
[Shamir] Nonsense! It blosters us! These [not further specified] strengthen us. However, I would not like to be nurtured on lies, and I do not wish to seek culprits. Why do you think the president granted the clemencies? This country is suffering from some sort of trauma: The operational echelon always comes out guilty, while the political echelon emerges clean.

[Edelist] Have there been any precedents to such a trauma?
[Shamir] Yes, but so what? The real reason is that there is no one to judge the political echelon. Only the public can. How can a judge decide whether this policy was correct and that one wrong? I felt the same already during the Kahan Commission and it is a very uneasy feeling. What do they know about conducting war? Do they know any better then the others?

[Edelist] So what you are suggesting is that once every 4 years the public should judge the political echelon and that that should be its entire contribution to conducting state affairs.
[Shamir] Yes, once every 4 years, and as far as I am concerned the public can go on judging as much as it wants.

[Edelist] But if the public should want to do that through the media?
[Shamir] The media does not represent the public.

[Edelist] So whom does it represent?
[Shamir] Itself. Business. This is a profession the same as any other profession. Do you mean to say that you represent the public? You appeal to the public, but you do not represent it.

[Edelist] Am I harming state security to promote my own interests?
[Shamir] When you reveal things that should be kept secret, you are harming state security.

Affidavit Submitted

TA081755 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1605 GMT 8 Jul 86

[Text] The affidavit submitted by the Shin Bet head to the High Court of Justice today details the reasons for the pardon request and the moves that preceded the president's signing of the pardons. There is no mention of the political echelon's responsibility. Our correspondent Avshalom Ginosar is here in the studio with more details:

In his affidavit the Shin Bet Head enumerates three reasons for the pardon requests: first, that justice be done to him and his staff. In his opinion, it would not be fair to him or his staff, who carried out orders and acted for the benefit of the country, to be investigated as though they were criminals. The second reason is the restrictions he says are imposed on the ways Shin Bet members can defend themselves during investigation. The third reason is, as he phrases it, the blow that would be dealt to the war against terrorism through the exposure of security secrets in the course of the investigation. These are the reasons which, he says, he also put forward to the president when he asked for the pardon.

As for the pardon request itself, in his affidavit the Shin Bet head says he regarded this request as an admission of guilt. He added that there is nothing in the text of the request that could serve as judicial justification for canceling out the crimes. This explanation should be regarded as a response to the judges' questions during the discussion about the meaning of the words: with authorization and permission, which appeared in the pardon requests.

In the affidavit the Shin Bet head reveals that as far back as 2 June, about a month before the pardon was granted, he spoke with the president at the latter's initiative about the affair and the damage already caused the Security Service by publicity on the issue, and the further damage that would be caused if secrets were leaked. During that conversation the matter of a pardon was not mentioned at all. The pardon issue was first raised to him on 24 June at the initiative of attorney Ram Kaspi. The same day the Shin Bet head phoned the prime minister and asked for permission to meet with the president, tell him all the details, and ask for a pardon. The meeting with the president was held that same day at 1900. At that meeting the Shin Bet head briefed the president on the actions he and his staff had taken. The president then said he would be prepared to consider the matter of a pardon only after he had made sure that he had the authority to grant one. Minister Moda'i and attorney Kaspi gave the president their views, to the effect that he did have the authority, that same night. The president said he would consider the matter favorably if he were presented with a recommendation by the justice minister approved by the Inner Cabinet and the attorney general. At about midnight the prime minister announced that the Inner Cabinet would discuss a pardon only after the requests had been written down. Later that night the Shin Bet head requested his three colleagues' agreement to also request a pardon. As we know, he received their agreement. The next morning the Inner Cabinet met and afterward the requests were submitted to the President.

So much for how matters developed according to the Shin Bet head's affidavit to the High Court. The other affidavits submitted today are shorter and are mainly covered in the one by the Shin Bet head. One of them contains details of the crimes committed by the person submitting the affidavit.

Within the next few days the High Court, in the wake of the affidavits submitted by the justice minister and Shin Bet members, will decide whether to issue an interim order on the matter of the pardon. The state's answer to the order issued on the matter of an investigation will be submitted to the High Court next week.

Alignment on Shamir Interview

TA081523 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1400 GMT 8 Jul 86

[Text] Minister Moshe Shahal of the Alignment, who is among those insisting on the establishment of a commission of inquiry into the Shin Bet affair, reacted to Shamir's interview on the Shin Bet affair by saying that Mr Shamir had better hire a good lawyer and ask his recommendations regarding the published interview. Shahal says that Mr Shamir must explain the precise contents of his talk with the Shin Bet director, a talk regarding which Shamir said: "There was not an order as such; there was a conversation." Moshe Shahal says that this issue is critical. Mr Shamir's remarks confirm the finding of the Zore'a Commission that the security elements in the field [during and after the storming of the No 300 bus] deviated from the regulations, and he as prime minister and the only one responsible for the security services did not deem it necessary to take action.

Sources in the Alignment assess that Mr Shamir's remarks in the interview will not change the situation regarding the High Court of Justice discussion. At this point the position presented by the police and the attorney general to the court is that the police will have to investigate the complaints lodged in this affair if a commission of inquiry is not established. These sources say that since at this point there is a majority in the Cabinet against the establishment of a commission of inquiry, it will be impossible to avoid a police investigation. We should await the beginning of such an investigation, they say, and then the dynamics of the investigation will make commission of inquiry inevitable.

Police To Investigate

TA081055 Tel Aviv HADASHOT in Hebrew 8 Jul 86 p 2

[Report by Ilan Kfir and Pe'erli Shahar]

[Excerpt] The police intend to continue to investigate the Shin Bet affair. This is made clear by the affidavit submitted by Inspector General David Krauss to the High Court of Justice. Senior jurists last night expressed their belief that as a result, the High Court of Justice will honor the police request to carry on with the investigation. The police will summon for questioning the people involved in the affair, including Yitzhaq Shamir and Shin Bet Chief Avraham Shalom. [Passage omitted]

U.S. Smuggling Accusations To Be Investigated

TA090454 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0400 GMT 9 Jul 86

[Text] Israel is again being accused of having smuggled technological know-how out of the United States. This time reference is to technology which is used for the production of cluster bombs. Subpoenas were sent out to more than 10 U.S. companies and to several employees in the Israeli purchasing mission in New York who have no diplomatic immunity. Also, searches were conducted in two companies in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, and another search is planned for a company in Erie, Pennsylvania. One of the Iowa companies is the Vector company which produces technology for compressing and coating medicine capsules. This technology can be applied to the production of cluster bombs. The investigation is being conducted jointly by the customs authorities, the federal prosecutor, and the FBI.

Our correspondent in Washington Shim'on Schiffer reports that Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy yesterday urgently summoned Ambassador Me'ir Rosenne and Attache Elyaqim

Rubinstein. Representatives of the federal prosecutor and the FBI also attended the meeting. The former submitted a list of questions and the Israeli Government was asked to respond to them. The administration is now awaiting replies from the Israeli political echelon on how to treat the affair and whether the members of the purchasing Mission can be subject to interrogation.

Our correspondent notes it was agreed at the meeting that the matter will not be leaked to the media before Israel submits its answers, but every detail of the affair was publicized in the U.S. media nevertheless. Israeli Embassy officials expressed disappointment with the reports, emphasizing they were leaked intentionally. Sources in the defense establishment told our military correspondent this morning that the entire affair will be thoroughly examined by the Defense Ministry this morning.

Defense Ministry: Claims 'Baseless'

TA091044 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1020 GMT 9 Jul 86

[Text] The Defense Ministry spokesman says that following an investigation conducted at the Defense Ministry this morning, there is no basis to the claims publicized in the U.S. media yesterday which again involve Israel's name in illegal export of means for the production of weapons. The Defense Ministry claims that raising this subject gives rise to surprising questions and may unjustly harm Israel's good reputation and threaten the good relations which prevail between Israel and the United States. The Defense Ministry takes a grave view of the fact that this matter was publicized before an investigation was conducted and the facts learned., In this affair, reference is to equipment for the production of minibombs [petzatzonot] for a cannon shell which were developed independently by the Israeli Military Industry. The Defense Ministry wishes to emphasize that the entire development process was independent, that the minibombs are genuinely Israeli, and that their production was begun some time ago. The Military Industry sought to purchase various types of industrial equipment in the United States for the production process. The Defense Ministry states that in order to purchase this equipment, the ministry's mission in New York, while following procedures and regulations, appealed to the U.S. State Department to obtain export licenses. The ministry states that all appeals were made legally and no item, be it big or small, connected with this matter was exported from the United States to Israel illegally. The Defense Ministry further and categorically states that there was no case here of illegal exporting of technology. As said above, the entire development process and the know-how involved are genuinely Israeli. This is the statement by the Defense Ministry spokesman.

Austrian President's Inauguartion To Be Boycotted

TA080430 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English
0400 GMT 8 Jul 86

[Text] There will be no Israeli representative at Waldheim's inauguration. A Voice of Israel reporter says Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir has instructed the charge d'affaires at Israel's embassy in Vienna not to attend the ceremony. At present, Israel's ambassador to Austria is in Jerusalem for consultations. He will return to Austria for a short time before leaving his post as ambassador. A new ambassador will not be appointed, and so Israel will not be represented at ambassadorial level in Vienna.

The Knesset is marking Waldheim's inauguration with the screening of Claude Lanzmann's film entitled "Shoah," meaning holocaust. The move comes at the initiative of the Knesset Education Committee.

No Congratulations From Herzog

TA090426 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English
0400 GMT 9 Jul 86

[Excerpt] At the recommendation of the Foreign Ministry, President Herzog has not sent a congratulatory telegram to Kurt Waldheim, who was sworn in as president of Austria yesterday. Waldheim this morning begins his first full day as president. Last night he gave a reception in Vienna to mark his inauguration. [Passage omitted]

Knesset, High Court View Convert I.D. Card Issue

TA080520 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English
0400 GMT 8 Jul 86

[Text] The Knesset last night discussed five motions to the agenda attacking the decision by the minister of the interior, Rabbi Yitzhaq Peretz, to enter the word "ger," convert, on the identity card of any immigrant who had been converted to Judaism. The objections came from all sections of the house, except Rabbi Peretz' own party, SHAS [Sefaradim Shomrey Torah, Torah Observing Sepharadim]. Jack Katzenell reports:

[Begin recording] [Katzenell] The Labor-Alignment and the left-wing opposition parties charged that Rabbi Peretz' proposal will be a breach of the basic human rights of the convert who immigrates to Israel. This is also the view of the small coalition party Shinuy and its leader, Cabinet Minister Amnon Rubinstein:

[Rubinstein] This is obvious, I mean this is something which is foreign and strange to any democratic society. It has racist undertones or overtones; it's against the status quo; and it's not supported by a decision made by the Government. It is to the best of my knowledge against the present law of the State. In other words, preposterous.

[Katzenell] The religious parties and the right-wing opposition Tehiya are also opposed to the proposal. Prof Avner Sciaki of the National Religious Party says Rabbi Peretz will be doing reform and conservative converts a favor to register them in the same category as orthodox converts and his party is against this.

[Sciaki] It puts on equal footing all conversions, orthodox and non-orthodox, and this goes counter to the general policy obtaining in this country for about 20 years now, that only orthodox conversions are the ones recognized, because that's the interpretation we used to give and the courts used to give to the word "giyur", or conversion, in the Law of Return.

[Katzenell] Professor Sciaki says it is also against halakha, Jewish law, to remind someone that he is a convert. The only party supporting the move is the four-man ultraorthodox SHAS party, led by the interior minister, Rabbi Yitzhaq Peretz himself. In his reply, Rabbi Peretz complained about quickie-conversions by American reform rabbis, for example of basketball players who wanted to acquire Israeli citizenship quickly. They would not be registered as converts on their identity cards, Rabbi Peretz promised the other religious parties. As for those who were denoted "ger", convert, it was not a humiliation, but a mark of honor, Rabbi Peretz said, as the halakha enjoins Jews to honor converts. [end recording]

All the motions against Rabbi Peretz' decision were moved to committee for further discussions. The registration of the converts is also being challenged in the High Court of Justice.

Rabin Denies Report on Imminent POW Exchange

TA080510 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 8 Jul 86 p 2

[Text] Tunis — The PLO's Fatah organization has offered to turn over one Israeli soldier and three bodies of Israeli soldiers to Israel in exchange for the release of 1,100 to 1,500 Palestinian prisoners, the PLO's Tunis-based WAFA news agency reported on Sunday.

Defence Minister Yitzhaq Rabin categorically denied the report to *The Jerusalem Post* defence reporter, saying that the only Israeli prisoners now in Arab hands are being held by the Lebanese Shi'ite fundamentalist Hizballah organization.

Meanwhile, PLO chief Yasir 'Arafat told reporters in Vienna that the prisoner swap, "is only an idea. We are ready." 'Arafat made the remark after addressing the United Nations Conference on Namibia.

ASL Soldiers Kill Terrorist 8 July

TA081525 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 8 Jul 86

[Text] Soldiers of the army of southern Lebanon [ASL] today interrogated residents of several villages north of the security strip. During the investigation they were attacked by a terrorist squad. Our correspondent Hayim Hecht was told that there were fire exchanges during which one terrorist was killed.

Released Terrorist Sentenced for Selling Rifle

TA071438 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1400 GMT 7 Jul 86

[Text] A terrorist who had been released in the deal with Jibril was sentenced to 5 years in prison today on charges of having sold a rifle to a Gaza resident.

Jewish Underground Members' IDF Service Investigated

TA081609 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1400 GMT 8 Jul 86

[Text] Only one of eight officers who were members of the Jewish terrorist organization and whose sentences were reduced has so far been given the position of a divisional commander in his reserves duty. None of the other officers in that group has been incorporated into the reserves. Of the 12 soldiers who were members of the organization and whose sentences were reduced, 9 have been incorporated into reserves units. Our military correspondent Shmu'el Tal reports that this emerges from an investigation carried out at the instruction of the defense minister.

Military Source: 'Only 150' Syrian Troops in Beirut

TA090531 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 9 Jul 86 p 1

[Text] An Israel military source said yesterday that Syria had sent only 150 troops to Beirut to maintain order in the Lebanese capital. This contradicts agency reports from Beirut putting the number of Syrian troops as high as 500.

Damascus has described its troops in Beirut as "observers," but they are known to be crack commandos under the direct command of Syrian army intelligence chief Ghazi Hamdan. He is said to be the man behind terror attacks directed against Israel and the south Lebanese Army.

Peres: U.S. Agrees To Support Lavi for 6 Months

TA071621 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 7 Jul 86

[Text] The prime minister has said that an agreement had been reached with the U.S. Administration that it would continue to support the Lavi project for another 6 months and, if it desired, offer alternatives. However, as Mr Peres pointed out to the members of the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee, so far the United States has not raised any proposal. Even if Washington suggests stopping the aid, the Americans will not interfere with the conversion of $300 million into shekels, a move intended to continue to provide support for Israeli technological institutions.

Peres: Jordan, Egypt Interested in Marshall Plan

TA080820 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 8 Jul 86 p 1

[Report by political correspondent 'Aqiva Eldar]

[Text] Jordan and Egypt are interested in the plan for regional economic development (the Marshall plan for the Middle East). Prime Minister Shim'on Peres revealed this last night in a talk with Prof Waldemar Schreckenberger, state secretary in the West German Chancellor's Office, who is currently visiting Israel.

Peres suggested that the plan first be implemented in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip under the leadership of President

Reagan, Secretary of State Shultz, and Chancellor Kohl. The guest said that the matter is currently under scrutiny in the West German Government.

Peres expressed his satisfaction over the involvement which the residents of the territories have recently dsplayed, with Jordan's encouragement and assistance in the running of their lives, and over their willingness to assume much more responsibility in many civilian spheres.

Al-Ja'bari Backs Down on Hebron Mayoralty

TA090739 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0700 GMT 9 Jul 86

[Text] Muhammad Rashad al-Ja'bari, the son of former Hebron Mayor Shaykh al-Ja'bari, does not intend to submit his candidacy for the Hebron mayoralty at this time. Rashad al-Ja'bari is the head of Hebron Chamber of Education and has visited Jordan recently. Our correspondent says that during this visit he discussed the possibility of submitting his candidacy for mayoralty but apparently changed his mind due to the Jordanian Government's measures against the Fatah organization.

Soviet Official Says Renewal of Relations Sought

TA081240 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 8 Jul 86 p 4

[Report by Hana Qim]

[Text] M. Vinogradov, foreign minister of the Belorussian SSR, last week held a meeting with three members of the "Oriental Front" [organization of Israeli Jews of Oriental extraction]: Kokhavi Shemesh, Yemini Ben-Dror, and Vicki Shiran. According to the three, Vinogradov told them that "the Soviet Union is looking for a way to renew relations with Israel." The meeting with Vinogradov was held in Vienna, where the UN Subcommittee for Middle East Affairs was in session. Vinogradov, who headed the Soviet delegation at the session, told the three Israelis that "Israel was closing the doors in the face of the Soviet Union while the latter wants to open them."

Bulgaria Wants To Strengthen Tourism, Relations

TA071210 Tel Aviv HADASHOT in Hebrew 7 Jul 86 p 2

[Report by Ilan Kfir and Tzahi Noga]

[Text] Bulgaria wants to strengthen its tourism relations with Israel as a first step toward resuming relations between the two countries. Israeli journalists who visited in Sofia during the last few days were told by representatives of the Bulgarian Tourism Ministry that they believe the day is near when El Al planes will be able to land in Sofia. The government officials emphasized that they are awaiting an Israeli appeal which may pave the way to the resumption of relations.

In the talks, the Bulgarians promised to make it easier for Israelis wishing to visit in Bulgaria to receive visas. The Bulgarian Tourism Ministry officials also emphasized that they would be glad to host an official representative of the Israeli Government in their country to discuss the strengthening of tourism relations between the two countries. At present, Israelis wishing to visit Bulgaria must fly via Greece.

The Foreign Ministry in Jerusalem is not aware of any possible initiative on the part of the Bulgarian Government to thaw its commercial and political relations with Israel. There have hardly been any political contacts between Israel and Bulgaria in the last few years, most contacts having been related to matters of commerce.

There have been secret diplomatic contatcs between Israel and some East European countries in the last few months, and progress was mostly made in the contacts with Poland. Both countries secretly agreed — and at Poland's request, without any official publicity — to open diplomatic representations, at a low level at this point. An Israeli delegation is due to leave for Poland soon to prepare the building of the Israeli representation in Warsaw for its upcoming reopening.

Shamir Receives Belize Premier Esquivel

TA081030 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1000 GMT 8 Jul 86

[Text] The visiting prime minister of Belize, Manuel Esquivel, has asked for Israel's help in influencing Guatemala to improve relations with his country. In a meeting with Vice Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir, the prime minister of Belize explained the details of the dispute between the two countries and asked Israel to exercise its clout with the Guatemalan Government to have the latter stop the hostility toward his country.

Among other things, the guest asked for Israel's assistance in agricultural matters. The vice prime minister promised that Israel would send an investigative delegation to look into Belize's needs as well as agricultural experts. Minister Shamir also asked the visiting prime minister that Belize support Israel in international forums.

Shamir: Ties With South Africa 'Reduced'

TA081125 Tel Aviv HATZOFE in Hebrew 8 Jul 86 p 2

[Report by the political correspondent]

[Excerpt] Israel has somewhat reduced the scope of its relations with South Africa since the institution of the emergency act there.

This was stated by Vice Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir yesterday in an address to the association of government ministry spokesmen in Jerusalem.

Minister Shamir said that one of the most important factors in our relations with South Africa is the problem of the Jews. "We must be, and we are, concerned about them." Minister Shamir said that Israel's ties with South Africa do not constitute an obstacle to our relations with other countries on the black continent. [passage omitted]

ALGERIA

FLN Central Committee Discusses Economy

LD022050 Algiers APS in English 1317 GMT 2 Jul 86

[Text] Algiers, 02/07/86 (APS) — The works of the FLN Party Central Committee wound up yesterday here by the adoption of four resolutions on the world economic crisis and its repercussions on the national economy.

Closing the session, President Chadli Bendjedid insisted on the need to see to the implementation of the decisions taken and urged party militants to conduct and put some life into the works in progress in close collaboration with party instances. We should see to it that holidays do not have a negative impact on the national economy in view of the particularly unfavourable context, President Chadli said. The head of state called on government officials and (?executive) at all levels to strive harder to control consumption and gain increased managerial skill. The current world economic crisis is not cyclical; only an austerity package and judiciously planned actions designed to increase production, improve quality and streamline consumption will help face up the situation, President Chadli underlined.

It will be recalled that the FLN Party Central Committee reviewed the actions that have been taken up to strengthen the economic social and cultural development of the country. The central committee examined the results achieved by the second five-year plan. It underscored the need to give priority to agriculture and water resources. On the other hand the Central Committee attached particular importance to the national development strategy and its strengthening to cope with the crisis. This strategy requires the buttressing of the material basis of the country and sustained creative efforts to increase production and productivity. The industrialized world which witnessed a large-scale technological revolution wants the effects of the crisis to be borne by the Third World to scuttle their efforts to get rid of their dependency.

The Central Committee further examined the latest developments on the regional and international levels. It called in this respect for the carrying on of [word indistinct] actions undertaken by Algeria to expand relations of friendship and cooperation with other states.

The Central Committee expressed its conviction that a just and lasting [word indistinct] Sahara conflict and a spirit of constructive neighborliness between all the countries of the region would help build up homogeneous gathering where peace, stability and prosperity will prevail.

The situation on the Arab scene, the Central Committee enlighted the party's secretary general unremitting efforts for the reunification of the Palestinian resistance and for greater cohesion of the Arab ranks. It reasserted Algeria's readiness to make further efforts to settle the differences between Palestinians, and restore understanding and solidarity within the Palestinian ranks.

Ibrahimi Talks With Omani Foreign Affairs Official

LD022200 Algiers Domestic Service in French 1830 GMT 2 Jul 86

[Text] Yusuf al-Alawi 'Abdallah, minister of state for foreign affairs of the Sultanate of Oman, arrived this morning in Algiers. His talks with Dr Taleb Ibrahimi during the first session today dealt with the situation in the Mashreq, Maghreb, and southern Africa. The two ministers, who also discussed bilateral relations, expressed the political will of their countries to further strengthen relations between Algeria and the Sultanate of Oman in all spheres, and to set up the necessary mechanisms for this purpose.

Bendjedid Receives Official 2 Jul

LD021847 Algiers APS in Arabic 1600 GMT 2 Jul 86

[Text] Algiers, 2 Jul (APS) — President Chadli Bendjedid, president of the Republic and secretary general of the FLN, received at his office today Yusuf al-Alawi 'Abdallah, the Sultanate of Oman's minister of state for foreign affairs, who is paying an official visit to Algeria.

PRC Delegation Tours Guelma Province

LD062154 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 6 Jul 86

[Text] The Chinese Communist Party delegation, which is on a visit to Algeria, made a familiarization tour of the province of Guelma today, and became acquainted with a number of economic, social, and cultural achievements which aroused its interest and admiration.

LIBYA

JANA Reports 8 Tunisians Sentenced to Death

LD071456 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1430 GMT 7 Jul 86

[Text] Tunis, 7 Jul (JANA) — The death sentence has been passed against 8 — including a Tunisian Army first lieutenant — of 20 Tunisians who were tried recently for violating public order.

Arab People's Congress Permanent Secretariat Meets

LD080905 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 0732 GMT 8 Jul 86

[Text] Tripoli, 8 Jul (JANA) — The Council of Delegates at the Permanent Secretariat of the Arab People's Congress met yesterday evening to prepare for the Permanent Secretariat's second session which will be held to commemorate the 34th anniversary of the [Egyptian] 23 July [1952] revolution.

The conferees reviewed the current situation in the Arab area and the imperialist-Zionist aggressive escalation, particularly the abortive barbaric U.S.-NATO aggression on the people of the Great Jamahiriyah and the steps that should be taken on the level of the Arab liberation movement to mobilize the Arab people for the realization of Arab unity, the liberation of Palestine, and aborting capitulationist solutions.

The Council of Delegates praised the Yemeni unity meeting held on the soil of the great 1 September Revolution and the positive initiative made in this respect by the brother commander of the revolution for the realization of unity between both parts of Yemen.

It was agreed to prepare a working paper to be submitted during the forthcoming Secretariat meeting to the Arab liberation movement for staging a pan-Arab popular confrontation against the imperialist-Zionist-reactionary aggression.

Japanese Official Stresses Support for Libya

LD031447 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 3 Jul 86

[Text] The director general of the Africa and Middle East Administration of the Japanese Foreign Ministry stressed that his country will not be bound by the statement issued by the Tokyo economic summit, and is absolved from it.

Miyake informed the secretary of the Libyan Arab People's Bureau and doyen of the Arab diplomatic corps in Tokyo when he met him yesterday that Japan strives to establish good relations with the Great Jamahiriyah and the countries of the Arab homeland and that Japan does not and will not agree to American aggression against the Libyan Arab people. He said that the Japanese foreign minister previously declared at the Japanese parliament, following the Tokyo summit, that Japan does not support the American administration in its aggression against Great Jamahiriyah which is playing an important role in the region and considers it one of the peace-loving and and anti-terrorist countries. He stressed that, during his visit to America, he stressed the need to deal with the cases of violence in a fundamental manner by recognizing the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination and in building their own state on their own usurped land.

JANA Editor on Crist Mideast Tour, Anti-Arab Stands

LD071446 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 7 Jul 86

[Text] George B. Crist, the commander in chief of the U.S. Central Command, arrived in Kuwait today on an official visit after a visit to Bahrain. KUNA said that Crist will hold talks with Kuwaiti officials on bilateral relations and on topics of interest to the two countries. The U.S. official made a statement in which he said that the U.S. Marines deployed in the Gulf area play an important role. He also stressed the importance of the presence of the U.S. naval forces in the Middle East. These forces comprise five U.S. warships.

The JANA Arab affairs editor commented on this and said:

This visit stresses the credibility of our analyses and the far-sightedness on which our attitudes are based concerning the issues that affect our area and the destiny of our Arab people. Neither Kuwait nor others now have an excuse against [illegible] Libya. There is no scope to repeat the one-upmanships and allegations concerning Syrian and Libyan attitudes toward the war that is going on in the Gulf area.

In the face of this, we are entitled to ask: What are the criteria with which Arabism is judged and through which the Arab stand is defined? Should not the true Arab stand, the sacred concepts of Arabism make an immediate meeting of Arab rulers imperative in order to take a firm and clear stand toward the direct reply of the barbarous U.S.-Atlantic aggression against the Libyan Arab people, an aggression, the target of which was children and the abomination of which aroused the conscience of the entire world? Does Arabism have other concepts that spring from Washington and drive one to clamor around the black house for nothing, save to underline allegiance and prove constant readiness to servce U.S. policy in the area?

In the face of the cocnepts which have been turned upside down and the twisted logic we also ask: Where is Arabism and what remains of it? The United States now deals with us as a flea in the body of this U.S. ghoul. All the roles that rival one another have been exposed before the Arab masses. They have fallen in the face of the existing categorical proofs. [as heard]

No one has the right to wave with one hand, raising the slogan of Arabism and the interest of the Arabs, while he extends the other hand to shake hands with the enemy of the Arabs and the murderer of the children of Arabism.

The issue has become clear. Arab rulers allied themselves against the Arab nation and began to have joint coordination through successive meetings with the Americans. In the face of these meetings, one-upmanship has become cheap and exposed. There is no longer the possibility of covering it up or wrapping it up with slogans of Arabism and cliches about united ranks.

Al-Qadhdhafi Shows Diplomats Effects of 'Aggression'

LD091053 Tripoli JANA in English 1015 GMT 9 Jul 86

[Text] Tripoli, Dulqidda 3, Shahr Nasser 9, *Jamahariyah News Agency* — The ambassadors of Arab and Islamic states accredited to Great Jamahiriyah went to the house of the leader of the revolution to see the effects of the [words indistinct] and barbaric aggression waged Al-Tayr 15th last.

They have expressed their resolute condemnation of this imperialist aggression against the Libyan Arab people stressing that it comes within the framework of the new prejudiced crusade against the Arab and Islamic nation directed mainly against the stances of the Libyan Arab people and its revolution. Such a resolution they have asserted is defending strongly the cause of the Arab and Islamic nation.

The ambassadors have also paid tribute to the steadfastness displayed by the Libyan Arab people, its courageous repelling of this aggression and its foiling it thanks to the brave leadership of Col. Mu'ammar al-Qadhafhi the leader of defiance and triumph.

Romania's Gison Denounces U.S. Talks During Meeting

LD081510 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1405 GMT 8 Jul 86

[Text] Tripoli, 8 Jul (JANA) — Nicolae Gison, president of the Grand National Assembly of the Socialist Republic of Romania, during his meeting with the brother assistant secretary of the General People's Congress in Bucharest yesterday, reiterated Romania's denunciation of the failed barbarous U.S.-NATO aggression against the people of the Great Jamahiriyah. Gison added that the U.S. aggression against the people of the Great Jamahiriyah has created tension in the whole Mediterranean region. At the same time, he pointed out the need to make the Mediterranean a lake of peace for all peoples.

The president of the Romanian Grand National Assembly has stressed the deepness of the existing relations of friendship between the two countries and the need to consolidate and develop them for the benefit of the two friendly peoples.

The brother assistant secretary of the General People's Congress gave the president of the Romanian Grand National Assembly additional explanations on the application of the Third Universal Theory on the soil of the Great Jamahiriayah.

Further Reportage on Al-'Attas-Al-Qadhdhafi Talks

Al-'Attas Says Meeting 'Useful'

LD041841 Tripoli JANA in English 1804 GMT 4 Jul 86

[Text] Tripoli, Shawal 28, Shahr Nasser 4, *Jamahiriyah News Agency* — Engineer Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas the president of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Council of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen (PDRY) and his accompanying delegation left Tripoli at noon today at the end of a visit to Great Jamahiriyah.

A big farewell was given to Engineer Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas at the head of which was Staff Major 'Abd al-Salam Ahmad Jallud. Also took part were the secretary of the General People's Congress, members of the General People's Committee, a number of officers of the Libyan Arab Armed Forces and the heads of the diplomatic missions accredited to Great Jamahiriyah.

Engineer Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas gave the following statement to JANA:

First of all I would like to express my great pleasure for this visit we made to sisterly Great Jamahiriyah on an invitation from Colonel Mu'amnar al-Qadhdhafi the leader of the Great Al-Fatih of September Revolution and the historic Libyan leadership. Our meetings with Colonel Al-Qadhdhafi and the historic leadership were beneficial and useful.

They enabled us to review all issues of concern to both our peoples and to our Arab nation. We witnessed and sensed ourselves during this visit, the traces of the U.S.-NATO barbarous aggression on Libyan Jamahiriyah. That aggression was aimed at the dignity and pride of our Arab nation.

The marvelous Libyan steadfastness filled our hearts with joy when it confronted this barbarous attack by the USA, the biggest imperialist state, which thought that by this aggression it will scare the steadfast Libyan Arab people and our Arab peoples which aspire the liberation of the Arab land and our struggling Arab peoples for freedom. But the really regrettable thing is that the reactionary regime, Arab regimes and the deterioration of the already bad Arab situation could not stand in denounciation of this U.S. aggression which as I said was aimed at the dignity and pride of our nation.

Also during these meetings we discussed with our brother Colonel 'Ali Abdallah Salih the methods and possibilities of the re-unification of our Yemeni people. One took a series of wide strides which will help us to continue our Yemeni unity march. At the same time we see that the Yemeni unity, and any other Arab unity between two Arab countries, is a strength and invincibility given to our Arab nation. Through the unity of the Arab nation and the unity of its peoples we can face all imperialist and Zionist plots.

We see that the Arab union project which Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi proposed is good and the Arab nation can re-establish itself if this unionist project was put to practice. It will return integration between the Arab nation, re-instate its glory and re-unite it.

We in PDRY see that this project can be carried out and march forward in realising it in reality. We very much discussed the issues of concern to us and felt greatly relieved by the fraternal friendly atmosphere that prevailed all through our discussions on various levels.

On this occasion I would like to express our great thanks and consideration to the leader of the Great al-Fatih of September Revolution, the Libyan historic leadership and the Libyan Arab people for the generous hospitality and the good reception we received in our second home — Great Jamahiriyah.

Al-'Attas Describes Talks

LD030948 Tripoli JANA in English 0914 GMT 3 Jul 86

[Text] Tripoli, Shawal 27, Shahr Nasser 3, *Jamahiriyah News Agency* — In comments he made to JANA on the conclusion of the unionist talks conducted between the sides of the two parts of Yemen, Engineer Haydar al-'Attas, chairman of the presidium of the Supreme People's Council of Democratic Republic of Yemen has said:

Our meeting with the leader of the great Al-Fatih Revolution Brother Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi has been both sincere and brotherly. We have discussed the overall present Arab conditions and Arab nation due to the increase of intensity of the plots and schemes concocted by imperialism and Zionism being directed against the sovereignty, security and stability of our Arab people and its progressive forces spearheaded by sisterly Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah. It has faced the unjust military U.S.-NATO aggression and has set a living example of Arab capability of steadfastness, repelling and sacrifice against the most arrogant imperialist state.

We, while reiterating the solidarity of our country and people with Al-Jamahiriyah, feel that the present Arab conditions and situation make it necessary to reinforce Arab unity to face up to these schemes. Therefore, viewpoints have been exchanged for the best means to achieve this noble and eminent objective. While supporting the call of Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi to realize Arab union to encounter the dangers threatening Arab presence and sovereignty, and within this framework, our positive and fruitful meeting with Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the northern part of our fatherland, has had a great importance to pursue the unionist efforts to reunify our Yemeni fatherland on the road of Arab unity which represents force and immunity of our Arab nation. We will exert all efforts and do our utmost nationally and on the pan-Arab level to achieve this noble objective of our Arab nation.

Thanks Al-Qadhdhafi on Departure

LD041847 Tripoli JANA in English 1817 GMT 4 Jul 86

[Text] Tripoli, Shawal 28, Shahr Nasir 4, *Jamahiriyah News Agency* — Engineer Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas sent a cable to the leader of the revolution on his departure from Great Jamahiriyah. It reads as follows:

Brother Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi the leader of the Al-Fatih of September Revolution, it gives us pleasure as we are leaving Libyan air space to express our thanks and appreciation to the courteous reception we received and the sincere fraternal feelings we were met with during our visit from you personally and from the brotherly Libyan people.

We wish you good health and happiness and your people progress, prosperity and victory over the enemies — enemies of the Arab nation.

Your Brother Engineer Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas, the president of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Council — People's Democratic Republic of Yemen.

'Text' of Libyan-PDRY Communique

NC050757 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 5 Jul 86

["Text" of communique issued on 4 July in Tripoli and Aden following the visit to Libya by Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas, members of the YSP Political Bureau and chairman of the Presidium of the PDRY Supreme People's Council]

[Text] At the invitation of Brother Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the great 1 September Revolution, Brother Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas, member of the YSP Political Bureau and chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Council of the PDRY, paid an official visit to the Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah at the head of a high-level delegation from 26 to 28 Shawwal, year 1395 from the death of the Prophet, corresponding to 2-4 Shahr Nasir [July] 1986.

During the visit, Brother Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas held cordial and fraternal meetings with Brother Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the great 1 September Revolution. The meetings dealt with a number of issues related to the anti-imperialist and anti-Zionist pan-Arab liberation struggle. Brother Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi briefed the PDRY delegation on the hostile plots by U.S. imperialist and the NATO alliance against the Great Jamahiriyah. Brother Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas expressed the solidarity of the YSP and the PDRY people and government with the steadfastness of the great Jamahiriyah people in the face of U.S. imperialist, Zionist, and reactionary conspiracies and threats. He strongly condemned the tyrannical U.S.-Atlantic military aggression against the Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, which was also aimed at the person of the leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi. This aggression is a new example of unethical international terrorism. It is the epitome of the officially sponsored terrorism that has been and still is practiced by the United States against the sovereignty, security, and stability of independent countries. It is also directed against the progressive and independent line pursued by the great 1 September Revolution in the pan-Arab liberation struggle, which is hostile to world imperialism and Zionism and their allies.

Brother Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas also expressed his admiration for the spirit of courage, gallantry, and sacrifice displayed by the masses of the great 1 September Revolution, and the glorious example they set in foiling this ugly form of international terrorism by U.S. imperialism against a state which is a member of the Arab League, the Nonaligned Movement, and the United Nations. This terrorism amounts to a violation of international law. It indicates contempt of the Arab nation and the international community, and constitutes a challenge to them.

He stressed that the PDRY condemns all forms of terrorism, aggression, and the economic blockade to which the Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah and other progressive countries are subjected. The PDRY sees the terrorism practiced against sovereign countries by the United States as a dangerous sign in international relations, imperiling world peace and the life of nations. It affirms that it supports and stands beside the people of the Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah and all other countries that are defending their national sovereignty, independence, and progressive choices.

Brother Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas affirmed that the PDRY stands with all its resources in the same trench as the Jamahiriyah in its brave resistance to all forms of aggression and threats, and that it stands alongside the great 1 September Revolution in its steadfastness against imperialism. The PDRY calls on European countries to drop their economic, political, and other measures against the people of the Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah.

The two sides declared that the struggle of peoples and liberation movements could not be labeled terrorism.

Concerning current developments in the Arab world, the two delegations reviewed the intensification of and increase in the ferocity of the imperialist onslaught, and the continued Zionist aggression against the Arab national liberation movement and its patriotic and progressive regimes. These are aimed at imposing capitulationist schemes, so that the entire Arab homeland may be subjugated to U.S.-Atlantic imperialist strategy, and at escalating the confrontation with international revolutionary forces in order to dominate the world militarily, economically, and politically.

In this context, Brother Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi strongly condemned the attempts and plots that the imperialist forces and their allies are hatching against the PDRY, its revolutionary course, and its national and pan-Arab options. He hailed the serious unionist efforts being exerted by the PDRY leaders to ensure the peaceful and democratic restoration of the unity of the Yemeni people.

In this regard, Brother Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas expressed his deep appreciation to the Great Jamahiriyah for hosting the Yemeni summit meeting between the presidents of the two Yemens under the auspices of Brother Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi. He said that this meeting had achieved positive results that will contribute to the consolidation of the Arab Yemeni people's security and stability, an essential condition for the realization of Yemeni unity and the aims of the Yemeni revolution's strategy. As a step in this direction, on the basis of the sublime unionist objectives of the pan-Arab progressive movement, and inspired by the principles of the Arab union project put forward by the great 1 September Revolution to confront the dangers threatening Arab existence and sovereignty, Brother Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas and Brother Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi stressed that the achievement of Yemeni unity and the establishment of a unified democratic Yemen respond to the unionist objectives of the Arab union project. They consider it a great pan-Arab achievement for the Arab nation on the road to achieving pan-Arab unity and confronting the deteriorating situation experienced by the Arab nation in the absence of unity. This is the radical solution for the problems facing the Arab. It will enable him to defend himself and exploit his resources and will allow him to play his progressive role in defense of his culture and his existence. In this regard, they call on all strugglers and Arab masses to revive the pan-Arab spirit and mobilize their powers and resources to achieve this great objective.

Brother Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas, chairman of the Supreme People's Council, speaking on his own behalf and on that of the accompanying delegation, expressed his deep thanks and appreciation to the people of the Great Jamahiriyah and their historic leadership, led by Brother Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the great 1 September Revolution, for the warm reception and generous hospitality they received. He invited Brother Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi to visit the PDRY. The invitation was accepted and the date will be arranged at a later time.

Al-Qadhdhafi Receives ICO Secretary General

LD051329 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 5 Jul 86

[Text] The leader of the revolution received today Brother Sharaf al-Din Pirzada, ICO secretary general, and the delegation accompanying him. The meeting was attended by the secretary of the Islamic Call Society.

Pirzada Departs Tripoli 6 Jul

LD061746 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 6 Jul 86

[Text] Brother Sharaf al-Din Pirzada, secretary general of the ICO, and his accompanying delegation left Tripoli at noon today after a visit to the Great Jamahiriyah.

DPRK Delegation Arrives in Tripoli 6 Jul

LD061744 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1600 GMT 6 Jul 86

[Text] Tripoli, 6 Jul (JANA) — Mr Chong Song-nam, the minister of external economic affairs of the People's Democratic Republic of Korea, and his accompanying delegation arrived in Tripoli this afternoon on an official visit to the Great Jamahiriyah.

MAURITANIA

Protocol on Cultural Accord With USSR Signed

AB081025 Paris AFP in French 1335 GMT 7 Jul 86

[Text] Nouakchott, 7 Jul (AFP) — The Mauritanian minister of information, telecommunications, and culture, Mr Mohamed Mahmoud Ould Weddadi, and the Soviet ambassador to Nouakchott, Mr Ivan Spitskiy, on Sunday signed an executive protocol on the implementation of a cultural and scientific accord, signed by the two countries in December 1967, it was learned in Nouakchott on Monday.

This protocol concerns the university training of Mauritanians in USSR, and the exchange of delegations in the field of culture, information, science, and sports.

South Korean Minister Concludes Visit

AB021540 Nouakchott Domestic Service in French 1430 GMT 2 Jul 86

[Text] Chong Kwan-yong, the South Korean minister of government administration, left Nouakchott this morning after a few days' visit to our country. He had brought a message from President Chon Tu-hwan to Colonel Maaouyia Sid 'Ahmed Ould Taya, chairman of the CMSN and head of state.

During his stay in our country he was received on behalf of the head of state by Lieutenant Colonel Anna Amadou Babaly, member of the CMSN and minister of interior. He also held several rounds of talks with Soumare Oumar, minister of civil service, labor, youth, and sports.

MOROCCO

Niger Foreign Minister Arrives 6 Jul on Visit

LD062140 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 6 Jul 86

[Text] Niger minister of foreign affairs and cooperation, Mahamane Sani Bako, arrived in Morocco this evening on an official visit to our country at the invitation of his Moroccan counterpart Abdellatif Filali. The visit will last for several days.

At the airport's VIP lounge Mahamane Sani Bako made a statement to the radio in which he noted the excellent relations linking Morocco with the State of Niger, recalling the fraternal and friendly relations which link His Majesty King Hassan II and His Excellency the President of Niger Seyni Kountche.

He added that his visit is aimed at strengthening cooperation between Morocco and Niger in all fields, in accordance with the wishes of the two leaders of the two countries.

The Niger minister of foreign affairs and cooperation was welcomed at Sala airport by Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation Abdellatif Filali, the director of the African and Asian section at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation, and the Moroccan ambassador to Niger.

Meets With Filali, Comments

LD071455 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 7 Jul 86

[Text] Ahmed Osman, the speaker of the parliament, today received Mahamat Sani Baku, the Niger foreign minister, at the premises of the parliament. Earlier Sani Baku was received by Abdellatif Filali, the Moroccan minister of foreign affairs and cooperation.

At the end of his talks with his Moroccan counterpart, the Niger foreign minister affirmed that relations between the Niger and Morocco are good. In a statement to the press, he said their talks had been lengthy and in depth and had covered the various bilateral issues. He declared that the results of the talks were good and that ways were discussed to bolster and strengthen these relations and to expand them so as to include trade, agricultural and cultural fields.

On the political level, Sani Baku affirmed that there was complete identity of views between Morocco and the Niger on all matters pertaining to the African Continent.

He added that he agreed with Filali on the need to intensify contacts between the two countries to coordinate stands toward the challenges facing the African Continent. He highlighted the role the Niger should play within the ICO in support of the causes of the Islamic nation.

Bahraini Defense Minister Arrives on Visit

LD082255 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 8 Jul 86

[Excerpt] Shaykh Hamad ibn 'Isa al-Khalifah, Bahraini heir apparent and minister of defense, arrived this evening at Muhammad V airport on a private visit to Morocco. [Passage omitted]

Transport Minister Confers With Romanian Counterpart

LD081329 Rabat MAP in English 1220 GMT 8 Jul 86

[Text] Rabat, July. (MAP) — Moroccan Minister of Transports Mohamed Bouamoud Monday conferred with visiting Romanian Vice-Minister of Transports and Telecommunications Alexandru Dobre.

The meeting reviewed the various aspects of cooperation between Morocco and Romania and explored the possibility to enlarge the scope of this cooperation.

The Romanian official voiced his country's willingness to consolidate bilateral cooperation and to work to extend it to air, road, and railway transport.

M. Bouamoud said it was important to increase contacts and exchanges between the two countries' officials, to promote vocational training, and to develp the sector of transports owing to its role in promoting economic and trade exchanges. The Romanian vice-minister of transports and telecommunications arrived in Morocco last June 30. He held meetings with a number of Moroccan officials, including the Minister of Equipment Mohamed Kabbaj, and visited several telecommunication facilities.

SUDAN

Numayri Guard Arrested on Arrival in Country

JN090933 Khartoum SUNA in English 0920 GMT 9 Jul 86

[Text] Khartoum, July, 9 (SUNA) — Security has arrested one of ousted President Numayri's guards upon his arrival to the country from outside, the daily *Al-Ayyam* today reported.

The inviestigation is secretly carried out with the arrested, the daily said, adding that the investigation is expected to reveal very important information. The authorities have declined to give further information in this regard, the daily added.

Al-Mirghani Discusses Ties With USSR, U.S.

EA061922 Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 6 Jul 86

[Text] Mr Ahmad Ali al-Mirghani, chairman of the Sovereignty Council, held a press conference in Cairo at 1000 today in which he stressed the concurrence of viewpoints between Sudan and Egypt over many issues of bilateral interest. He pointed out that he had briefed President Mubarak on the democratic situation in Sudan and its efforts to restore everything to normalcy. Mr Ahmad al-Mirghani stressed Sudan's faith in integration between the peoples of Sudan and Egypt, pointing out that there are committees working to evaluate the integration experiment so as to come out with defined recommendations on it.

With regard to the question of extraditing the tyrant Numayri to Sudan, his excellency said the issue was now before the Egyptian judiciary and Sudan was awaiting the verdict.

As to the issue of the south, Mr al-Mirghani stressed the importance of a peaceful solution and the role of the Armed Forces and the importance of supporting them both politically and militarily.

In reply to a question about Sudan's relations with the United States and the USSR, Mirghani stressed the good, balanced relations with the two superpowers. He referred to the scheduled visit of Mr al-Sadiq al-Mahdi, the prime minister, to the USSR. He stressed that the visit would take place to discuss the development of bilateral relations. He said relations with the United States were good and stressed that Sudan hoped U.S. aid would continue.

Committee To Regulate Cabinet, Council Coordination

JN061813 Khartoum SUNA in English 1740 GMT 6 Jul 86

[Text] Khartoum, July 6 (SUNA) — A committee has been set up today to draw regulations aimed at coordination between the Cabinet and the State Council, Premier al-Sadiq al-Mahdi said today. He said regular meetings will convene between the Council and the Cabinet for consultations.

The move came on the heels of what the premier termed "a misunderstanding" between the acting State Council chairman and the journalist-turned Minister of Culture and Information Muhammad Tawfiq.

The "misunderstanding" started when technicians of the National TV and Radio Corporations threatened to stage a strike unless their demands of salary increase were met. The State Council acting chairman has intervened to settle the issue, while the culture and information minister considering the question as being of the resort of his ministry.

Chevron Company Official on Security in South

JN051730 Khartoum SUNA in English 1650 GMT 5 Jul 86

[Text] Khartoum, July 5 (SUNA) — The Chevron-Sudan company director today stressed that circumstances that led to the suspension of the company oil prospection operations in the southern part of the country were still existing.

The director who expressed hope over vanishing of these circumstances which he said were related to insecurity in the prospection areas asserted that his company did not desire to resume its operations under Army protection.

The official denied that Chevron-Sudan had or thought to contact any foreign body to protect its installations in the south adding that his company had nothing to do with mere internal Sudanese affairs and that it signed contract with the government and therefore this later should provide security for the company.

Also he denied that the former transitional or current government had proposed amendment for the basic agreement signed between Sudan and Chevron which he [said] was subjected to five amendments during the period between 1979 to 1985 pointing [out] that the former transitional government had examined previous amendments for the agreement but it had not presented any new amendments.

The director further affirmed that the quantities of discovered oil in the two wells of Sharif and Abu Jabirah which are away from war active areas were not sufficient for economic exploitation adding that these quantities could not be used but in generating electricity.

The company has prepared necessary technical studies regarding these two wells and gave them to the transitional government which had not enough time to study them he added.

Meanwhile the official said that a delegation from Chevron overseas will arrive here during next week to meet with prime minister and minister of energy.

The delegation's talks with the Sudanese Government officials would concentrate on general aspects indicating that the current government had not enough time to be acquainted with the situation details.

Finally the official expressed his company's desire to establish grounds of understanding and cooperation with the government affirming that Chevron-Sudan would remain in the country till vanishing of the said circumstances.

SPLA Claims Nile Battalion Blows Up Second Bridge

EA071627 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in English 1300 GMT 7 Jul 86

[Excerpt] Units of Nile Battalion under the overall command of Major Paulino Deng Ajuong have blown up (Geter) bridge on Wau-Aweil road following the demolition of Serkweng Bridge on the same route earlier last month. According to a Radio SPLA correspondent with Nile Battalion, the destruction of (Geter) bridge was accomplished by an engineering unit forming part of the task force under the command of Captain Bagat Aguot. [Passage omitted]

Briefs

Cooperation Protocol With Egypt — A 160 dollars million new protocol of cooperation between Sudan and Egypt was signed here Saturday. Commerce, Cooperation and Supply Minister Muhammad Abu Harira signed for the Sudan while the Egyptian Minister for Economy and Foreign Trade 'Ali Sultan signed for his government. [Text] */Khartoum SUNA in English 1015 GMT 6 Jul 86 JN/*

Agreement With FAO — An agreement was signed between Sudan and the World Food and Agriculture Organization [FAO] on implementing a project for promoting the dairy products in the national capital and also for rehabilitating the livestock — fattening project executed for the same purpose in Sowba Region. According to this agreement FAO will provide Khartoum Dairy Products Company with powdered milk and butter at the total cost of 36-million Sudanese pounds. The agreement was reached during a meeting held yesterday between Animal Wealth Minister Isma'il Abkar Ahmad and a FAO delegation currently on visit to the country. [Text] *[Khartoum SUNA in English 1020 GMT 6 Jul 86 JN]*

TUNISIA

Bourguiba Replaces Prime Minister Mzali With Sfar

LD081842 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 8 Jul 86

[Text] The great struggler, President Habib Bourguiba, has decided to dismiss Mohamed Mzali from his position as prime minister and secretary general of the party, and to appoint Rachid Sfar as his successor; that is, prime minister and secretary general of the party. The president of the Republic also decided to appoint Ismail Khelil as minister of planning and finance.

Discusses Economy With Ministers

LD082312 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 2125 GMT 8 Jul 86

[Text] President Habib Bourguiba held a working session at the Presidential Palace in Skanes this morning with [Prime Minister] Rachid Sfar, [Interior Minister] Zine Labidine Ben Ali, [Plan Minister] Ismail Khalil, and Mohamed Skhiri, governor of the Tunisian Central Bank. The session was devoted to the study of all aspects of the economic situation in the country and the government's plan of action to face this situation and to pave the way for activation of the economic activity.

Sfar Makes Statement

LD091205 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 9 Jul 86

[Text] President Habib Bourguiba this morning had talks at the Presidential Palace at Skames with Rachid Sfar, whom the president and party chairman has appointed prime minister and party secretary general, and with Ismail Khelil, whom the grand combatant has appointed minister of planning and finance.

Following the meeting, Rachid Sfar made the following statement:

I have had the pleasure of meeting with the president of the Republic, to whom I have expressed my thanks, gratitude, admiration and cherishment of the trust he so dearly bestowed on me by appointing me prime minister and secretary general of the Socialist Destourian Party. These are all heavy responsibilities. I have pledged to him to do all I can to live up to the trust he has shown in me and to serve the nation. The president has given me his clear sound guidance with regard to perfecting the work of the government as we approach the 7th plan so that we can triumph over all challenges within the policy of dialogue with all parties and the increasing of the participation of all Tunisian potentials; so that Tunisia will always be for all Tunisians; and so that all people with true good wills and all patriots will contribute to the collective work of overcoming all difficulties thereby insuring the continuation of the development march and the attainment of the aspired prosperity, which the president has decided to be the slogan of the party's forthcoming conference.

We will exert our utmost together with the government team of the president so that we can bolster Tunisia's invulnerability politically, economically, and socially through the bolstering of the national upsurge, which will always remain our sublime objective.

WESTERN SAHARA

Communique on Abdelaziz Visit to Congo

LD021416 Algiers APS in English 1440 GMT 2 Jul 86

[All quotation marks as received]

[Text] Brazzaville, 1 July (APS) — Congo and the Saharan Arab Democratic Republic reaffirmed their conviction that direct negotiations between the two belligerents — SDAR and Morocco — are the key to a solution of the [words indistinct], a joint Congolese-Saharan communique released following the official visit of President Mohamed Abdelaziz to Congo underlined.

The two sides denounced Morocco's warlike attitude and its stubbornness which obstructs OAU and UN all-out efforts for the full implementation of OAU Resolution 104 and UN Resolution 405.

"The Congolese side reiterated its steadfast support for the Saharan people's struggle under the leadership of the Polisario Front for the recognition of their sovereignty and the respect of SADR's territorial integrity, the communique rpeorted.

The two sides reaffirmed the inalienable right of the Namibian and the South African peoples for freedom and independence and voiced forceful support for the legitimate struggle against the apartheid regime and strongly condemned Pretoria's destabilizing manoeuvres and repeated aggressions against the Frontline States.

The Congo and the SADR commended the African countries efforts toward the setting up of solidarity and cooperation in line with the ideals of their peoples and reiterated their faith in the OAU which remains an efficient and privileged tool for the attainment of freedom, progress, and development as stated in its charter.

The two countries reaffirmed their unconditional support for the Palestinian people in their struggle for the setting up of a sovereign and independent state under the leadership of the PLO and reasserted full solidarity with Arab states fighting for the recovery of their usurped lands.

The two countries renewed their deep commitment to the goals and principles of the Nonaligned Movement and said they are confident that the movement would come up to the expectations of their peoples.

Congo and the SADR also expressed solidarity with peoples of Asia, Latin America and especially with the Nicaraguan people facing imperialist oppression.

'President' Ends African Tour With Talks in Mali

LD031314 Algiers APS in English 1044 GMT 3 Jul 86

[Text] Bamako, 3/7/86 (APS) — The working and friendly visit paid by President Mohamed Abdelaziz, SADR president and Polisario Front secretary general, in Mali ended yesterday. Talks between Saharan head of state and his Malian counter part President Moussa Traore and between the Saharan delegation headed by Mr Abdelkader Taleb Omar and home minister with a Malian delegation headed by the minister of foreign affairs and international cooperation were the main events which marked this visit.

The President Mohamed Abdelaziz, has ended a tour he started from 24th June and 2nd July in Burkina Faso, Zimbabwe, Congo, Angola Sao Tome Principe, and Mali. During this tour, SADR president had talks with the respective leaders of the visited countries, which dealt especially with Saharan people's struggle against Moroccan expansionism and also with Namibian and South African peoples' struggle against Pretoria's regime the situation prevailing in Africa in general and in the world. These countries heads of state reiterated their firm will to the Saharan cause and their solidarity with Saharan peoples struggle under the leadership of Polisario Front for their freedom and independence.

GHANA

Immigrants in Nigeria Advised To Get Jobs
AB081725 Accra Domestic Service in English
1300 GMT 8 Jul 86

[Text] The ratification of the second phase of the ECOWAS treaty by Nigeria does not imply an indefinite stay in that country by all aliens. This was stressed by Ghana's high commissioner to Nigeria, Brigadier Adu Bediako, in a speech read for him at the inauguration of the National Association of Ghanaian Communities in Bauchi [Nigeria]. He said the conditions under the treaty have been made clear and that only immigrants with specified professions could benefit from the concession. Such persons will be screened to verify the authenticity of their qualification and if they do not have any jobs, they must obtain them within 6 months of their entry into Nigeria.

Brig Adu Bediako advised Ghanaian immigrants who do not fall into the categories of the specified professions to start thinking of returning home before the Ghana mission is called upon again to intervene on their behalf. He said the mission is seriously concerned about Ghanaian detainees in Nigerian cells and prisons and is working relentlessly to have those without proven cases released.

LIBERIA

LAP Says Johnson-Sirleaf, Others Arrested
AB081552 Paris AFP in French 1508 GMT 8 Jul 86

[Text] Monrovia, 8 Jul (AFP) — One of the major leaders of the Liberian Action Party (LAP), Ms Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf, and several members of that opposition party were arrested in Buchanan on the Atlantic coast, on Saturday, a communique issued by the party on Monday in the Liberian capital said. These arrests were made upon the orders of the senator of Buchanan constituency (140 km southeast of Monrovia), Mr Charles Williams, during a political meeting which he said was "illegal," the LAP pointed out.

On his part, Senator Williams confirmed on Monday that he had ordered these arrests because of the "illegal organization of a political meeting," but maintained that the persons sought had run away. According to him, the LAP should have obtained permission from the Ministry of Justice before holding the meeting. The party's communique contests this version of the story, however.

Meanwhile, a delegation of six FRG parliamentarians led by Professor Kar-Heinz Hornheus, (the ruling Christian Democratic Party), arrived on Monday evening in Monrovia for a 3-day visit to Liberia.

Government To Pay $1.7 Million Arrears to ECOWAS
AB082211 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English
2000 GMT 8 Jul 86

[Text] Liberia is to pay $1.7 million to the Economic Community of West African States, ECOWAS, in October this year, toward the partial offset of the $3 million due the community. This was disclosed in Monrovia yesterday by finance minister Robert Tubman. *The New Liberian* newspaper, quoting Mr Tubman, said the balance of $1.3 million will be paid between March and April next year. At the just-ended ECOWAS summit of heads of state and government in Abuja, Nigeria, it was agreed that all delinquent arrears to the Community be paid to ensure its survival.

MALI

President Traore To Visit USSR 14-19 July
AB082051 Bamako Domestic Service in French
2015 GMT 8 Jul 86

[Text] At the invitation of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the Union of the Soviet Socialist Republics, and the Soviet Government, General Moussa Traore, secretary general of the Democratic Union of Malian People and president of the Republic, will, from 14 to 19 July, conduct an official friendly working visit to the Soviet Union accompanied by (?Mrs Moussa Traore) and an important delegation.

NIGERIA

AFP: Government To Boycott Commonwealth Games
AB091118 Paris AFP in English 1040 GMT 9 Jul 86

[Text] Lagos, July 9 (AFP) — Nigeria will boycott the Commonwealth Games to protest British sporting links with South Africa. A government spokesman called the move "a major foreign policy decision" and said it was "irrevocable." The boycott, reported in the *Guardian* newspaper, is believed to be the first step in a package of measures to protest Britain's failure to impose sanctions on South Africa and is also linked with the inclusion of a white South African born-runner, Zola Budd, in the English team.

Nigeria, the Commonwealth's largest black member state, boycotted the Commonwealth Games in 1978 and the Olympics in 1976, also on the issue of links between participating countries and South Africa.

Babangida Discusses IMF Loan, Unemployment
MB081627 London BBC World Service in English
1515 GMT 8 Jul 86

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] President Babangida's military government in Nigeria is going through a sticky patch at the moment. There have been the recent student troubles sparked off by killings on the campus of Zaria University in the north when police opened fire. Unofficial reports strongly criticize the police tactics.

At the same time, the country is going through an economic crisis arising from the slump in world oil prices. Perhaps surprisingly, Nigeria has turned its back on a big IMF loan, although it has complied with most of the terms, such as devaluation and the lifting of subsidies on basic commodities, measures not likely to endear the government to the people.

In Lagos, Alexander Thompson asked President Babangida why he had said no to an IMF loan.

[Begin recording] [Babangida] What I think is important is that we believe very strongly that we should be able to solve our own problems by ourselves, at our own pace, and our own volition and that is why we thought it is not necessary to accept the IMF loan at all. We should be able to do it ourselves and this is what we are trying to do.

[Thompson] What if it turns out that you can't and that the IMF does not approve of what you have done so far and particularly, for example, if the West is still reluctant to reschedule without some kind of IMF deal, might you turn to the IMF in the months to come if the economic crisis continues?

[Babangida] The straight answer to it is no, we do not accept the IMF loan and I think that they have also realized that we are not going to accept this, but the most important thing of all, I believe very strongly, is that no country lives on its own. I feel very strongly that the West will show a lot of understanding for the efforts we have been making to get our economy to the path of growth and I don't believe that they would like to see us fail in this crusade that we are doing. The potential for our economy taking off is quite great and I believe very strongly that the West needs us and we need the West so I believe we should come to a settlement.

[Thompson] Now, one effect of the economic recession in Nigeria is growing unemployment and more specifically youth unemployment, graduate unemployment. Now, (Mutato Abasoya), in his recent report on the student troubles here, spoke of students being left in the lurch, jobless, frightened, confused, and aggrieved. How worried are you about the fact that many talented young men just cannot find a job?

[Babangida] Well, I think the government has taken a lot of measures now to provide employment for the graduates, for the primary school, and for the secondary school students. So what we have done quite recently, we have taken up a census of the unemployed in each of the ... [changes thought] in every one of the states of the federation and we are mapping out a strategy where we will encourage people to become self-employed and I think the problem is appreciated by the government and the government is doing quite a lot now to try to bring down the question of unemployment within the country. [end recording]

Akinyemi Receives GUNT's Oueddei, Discusses Peace

AB081558 Lagos Domestic Service in English
1500 GMT 8 Jul 86

[Text] The minister of external affairs, Prof Bolaji Akinyemi, today in Lagos met with the former Chadian leader, Mr Goukouni Oueddei. The talks are seen in diplomatic circles as being in conformity with Nigeria's policy to maintain contacts with all factions in the Chadian crisis. Details of their discussions are not known but our diplomatic correspondent said there is a possibility that the former Chadian leader will go along with Nigeria's peace initiative in the conflict.

At today's meeting between the minister and the former Chadian leader were the permanent secretary in the Ministry of External Affairs, (Alhaji Hamza Ahmadu) and other Nigerian officials. The delegation of the Transitional Government of National Unity, which is controlled by Mr Oueddei, visited the country last February. That team was led by Mr Oueddei's minister of state for coordination, Mr Acheikh Ibn Oumar, and met with the minister of external affairs.

U.S. Asked To Help Combat Drug Peddling, Abuse

AB081732 Lagos Domestic Service in English
1500 GMT 8 Jul 86

[Text] Nigeria has called for the assistance of the United States in her effort to combat drug peddling and drug abuse. The minister of information and culture, Colonel Anthony Ukpo, made the call in Lagos today when the outgoing United States charge d'affaires, Mr Herbert D. Gelber, paid him a farewell visit. Col Ukpo also called for exchange of visits between Nigerian and United States Government officials stressing that this is the only way they could work together in fostering cooperation and understanding between both countries. He explained that the relaunched War Against Indiscipline would take care of all the ills of the society including the problem of drug peddling. Col Ukpo stated that this was one area where Nigeria could share America's experience and assistance to contain the menace of drug trafficking. He said that the government had already set in motion the appropriate machinery for educating the public on the evil effect of drug peddling and abuse.

Replying, Mr Gelber assured the minister that America's concern for drug abuse was not a selfish one. The outgoing charge d'affaires disclosed that the particular newspaper which had been carrying damaging reports about Nigeria has now changed its negative attitude to the country. Col Ukpo recently undertook a tour of the United States to explain government's feelings about such negative reports.

CONCORD Favors Military 'Devoid of Politics'

AB070820 Lagos Domestic Service in English
0600 GMT 7 Jul 86

[From the press review]

[Text] The *National Concord* calls on the Nigerian Armed Forces to reassess its role with a view to returning to its traditional function of defending the territorial integrity of the nation. The paper believes that military administration is not the answer to social, economic, and political problems. After examining the performance of the Armed Forces for the 15 years it has ruled the nation, the *Concord* submits that the military has proved a harbinger of political instability and official tension. It therefore wants to see a force that has a strong striking capability devoid of politics.

Papers Comment on Ban on Former Politicians

AB031005 Lagos Domestic Service in English
0600 GMT 3 Jul 86

[From the press review]

[Text] Three papers, the *New Nigerian*, the *Concord*, and the *Nigerian Voice*, comment on the state of the nation broadcast last month by President Ibrahim Babangida. The papers examine extensively the political aspect of the speech, particularly the ban on former politicians of the Second Republic from taking active part in politicis for 10 years.

The *New Nigerian* says although the decision to ban the politicians is well intentioned, it is nevertheless mistaken. It points out that the decision is based on several assumptions, none of which will stand the test of logic or fairness. The *New Nigerian* wants the ban to affect only those who have been found guilty of one thing or the other, whether they are politicians, police, or military personnel.

The *Voice*, on its part, supports the ban and advises the government to vigorously enforce it to achieve its noble objectives. The paper believes that if properly enforced, the ban will ensure a full break with the nation's inglorious political past, and give new-breed politicians the opportunity to develop an attitude toward public office as a call to service. The *Voice* expresses the need for government to groom the new politicians to be made to respect the virtues of accountability, magnanimity in victory, and equality in defeat.

For the *Concord*, the ban is only one of the many steps that ought to be taken toward a full and stable political order. The paper contends that while the former politicians may have participated in the corruption and immorality that are tended to the Second Republic, the roles played by other groups also need to be identified and analyzed. The *Concord* stresses that any meaningful move toward a new political system must include decisive measures in respect of roles played by the press, the judiciary, the police force, and indeed the military. Nonetheless, it hopes that the Babangida administration will create a kind of society from which an entirely new breed of politicians can emerge.

ANGOLA

Defense Minister Comments on RSA 'Destabilization'

MB081522 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese
1200 GMT 8 Jul 86

[Text] The main ceremony of the Army Service [Servicos da Tropa] Day celebrations was held in Luanda today under the chairmanship of Defense Minister Colonel Pedro Maria Tonha. In a festive atmosphere, the ceremony began with the reading of messages of congratulations from the amateur parachuting committee and the Mayanga members of the Youth of the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola.

In his speech on the army service, Lieutenant Colonel Nero, head of the FAPLA forces army service department, referred to some of the activities carried out by his department to maintain military discipline and public order. In order to carry out their duties successfully, all armies must be guided by norms of conduct. The MPLA has always paid great attention to strengthening army discipline and created the army service and other organs for that purpose, Col Pedro Maria Tonha said when he delivered the closing speech of the main ceremony to celebrate the 9th anniversary of the creation of the army service.

[Begin Tonha recording] Throughout the 9 years of your existence, you comrades have carried out productive work. I want to take this opportunity to congratulate all the army service officers, noncommissioned officers, and soldiers who have demonstrated a high degree of responsibility in carrying out their duties. We understand that you comrades do not yet have all necessary conditions to carry out all your duties effectively. However, the steps which have been taken so far encourage us to continue our work towards improving the quality of your service.

Comrade officers, noncommissioned officers, and soldiers, the celebration of this 9th anniversary takes place at a time when the political and military situation in our country and in southern Africa remains tense. Imperialism, which is naturally hostile to the freedom of the peoples, continues to seek the overthrow of progressive systems in Africa, thus seeking to maintain the exploitation and domination of the African peoples. Regarding the destabilization of progressive countries, imperialism uses the racist South African regime and its puppet gangs as satellites. Racist South Africa is seeking to place the blame for its crisis situation — which is the result of the uprising of the oppressed people in the country — on neighboring states. As a result, its army violates the borders of neighboring countries, kills defenseless people, destroys economic centers, and arms, trains, equips, and infiltrates puppet gangs to spread terror in neighboring countries. Recently, to demonstrate its power as the gendarme of imperialism in southern Africa, the Pretoria racist regime attacked Zambia, Botswana, and Zimbabwe. This action was strongly condemned by the international community. This regime also resorts to countless ploys to prevent the implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 435 on Namibia's independence. We have no doubt that this regime is the main obstacle to peace in southern Africa.

The war situation imposed on us by imperialism, as Comrade President Jose Eduardo dos Santos has reiterated, leaves us no other option but to defend ourselves by all available means. The FAPLA forces, hardened by the difficult years of the struggle against Portuguese colonialism and aggresive imperialist policies, have fulfilled their enormous responsibilities with dedication and courage and they have inflicted increasingly hard blows on the declared enemies of the Angolan people. [end recording]

MALAWI

External Affairs Secretary Evaluates RSA Relations

MB090638 Johannesburg Television Service in English
1925 GMT 8 Jul 86

[Interview with Secretary for External Affairs Ron Nkomba by correspondent Cliff Saunders on the "Network" program presented by Michelle Alexander — live]

[Text] [Alexander] The introduction of sanctions against South Africa will be a negative development for the entire southern African region, according to the Malawian secretary for external affairs, Mr Ron Nkomba. He discusses sanctions and other issues pertinent to the subcontinent in this exclusive interview with Cliff Saunders:

[Begin recording] [Nkomba] I think that the problem, the problems, that we have because of our relations with South Africa are more of a political nature. The OAU, and some African countries — some of whom we know have dealings with the Republic of South Africa — have never understood, appreciated, nor accepted the rationale behind Malawi's close relationship with South Africa. I think you know the background. For a long time Malawi was considered the odd country out, for having established relations with South Africa. As far as we are concerned, it was for pragmatic reasons that we established these relations with the Republic of South Africa, and we are quite happy to maintain those relations. We do get criticized, mainly because we do not hide the fact. We do not deal at night with South Africa. We deal with it during the day. And, to give you an example of the most topical problem that we have now, because of our relations with the Republic of South Africa, is the allegation, the incessant allegation that South Africa is using Malawian territory to infiltrate bandits of the Mozambique National Resistance Movement, MNR, to destabilize Mozambique. We have made consistent and unequivocal denials to these allegations, regrettably to no avail. What we have said to the perpetrators of these allegations is for them to realise how ridiculous it sounds for Malawi to support the very organization that is reported to be responsible for the dislocation of our transit routes through Mozambique.

[Saunders] Mr Nkomba, what general philosophy do you apply in your relationships with South Africa?

[Nkomba] The best way to answer that particular question is to take you back to the founding summit of the OAU back in May 1964 in Cairo, and here I am going to quote my president because it was at that meeting that his excellency the life president, then prime minister of this country, defied such legendary figures as

Egypt's Gammal 'Abd al-Nasir, Ahmed ben Bella of Algeria, Sekou Toure of Guinea-Conakry, and Kwame Nkrumah of Ghana. The Ngwazi, the life president, told the meeting that as far as he was concerned, his great grandfathers had dealt with these countries and he would not come home and reverse that trend. The philosophy behind our relations with South Africa is based on the concept of contact and dialogue. We advocate discussion and negotiation as a more practical form to deal with countries than isolation and boycott. We do not condone racial discrimination and my life president has been emphatic that, in fact, we abhor the policy of apartheid. But we are convinced that isolating and boycotting South Africa will only harden the government, prolong the violence, and slow down the process of political change and constitutional reform.

[Saunders] Speaking about boycotts, what effects fo you think there would be on Malawi should sanctions be applied against South Africa and should the South African economy be hit hard as a consequence of sanctions?

[Nkomba] We are not in favor of imposing economic sanctions on South Africa because we feel, as I have said earlier, that if South Africa were to take reprisals against the neighboring states, if as your foreign minister, Mr R.F. Botha, said last week, if South Africa were to cut off the transit routes and stop exports of goods to the neighboring countries, our economy will be affected.

[Saunders] In view of the conflicts between the West and the East in southern Africa in particular, what is Malawi's position? What do you value most highly, your economic relationships with the West or with the East?

[Nkomba] Malawi deals with any country on an economic and commercial basis regardless of its political persuasion. We believe in isolating politics from economics and commerce.

[Saunders] What is your attitude towards the presence of foreign forces in southern Africa, for instance the some 35,000 to 40,000 Cuban troops who are active in Angola? Do foreign forces in southern Africa concern you at all?

[Nkomba] It does to the extent that we feel that of these problems on the African Continent would be solved easier, faster, and probably better if there were not so much foreign interference. We have always advocated that foreign interference confuses the local picture.

NAMIBIA

SWAPO Wing Reports RSA Soldiers Killed

EA082305 Addis Ababa Voice of Namibia in English 1900 GMT 8 Jul 86

[Text] The combatants of the People's Liberation Army of Namibia, PLAN, SWAPO's [word indistinct] military wing, have stepped up military operations against the South African occupationist forces in Namibia. On 4 July, the Department of Information of SWAPO issued the following war communique:

The brave combatants of the People's Liberation Army of Namibia, PLAN, have again successfully attacked another fortified South African military base in the area of (Gongo), northeastern Namibia. PLAN artillery units again took the enemy by surprise on the night of 2 July, shelling the base heavily with mortars. Twelve racist soldiers were killed and 16 others seriously wounded. Fuel depots, ammunition and food storages were set ablaze. The living quarters and several army vehicles were completely destroyed. [Words indistinct] tanks used by the enemy were also destroyed. [Passage indistinct]. We of the People's Liberation Army of Namibia, PLAN, are determined to leave no stone unturned in our patriotic duty to liberate our motherland. The struggle continues. Victory is certain.

Conference on Namibia Opens 7 July in Vienna

For coverage of the international "conference on the independence for Namibia" which began 7 July in Vienna, Austria, with addresses by UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar, Council of Namibia President Paul Lusaka, SWAPO President Sam Nujoma, Tanzanian Foreign Minister Benjamin Mkapa, and Turkish Foreign Minister Vahit Halefoglu, among others, see the International Affairs section of the 9 July Western Europe *Daily Report* and subsequent issues.

SOUTH AFRICA

Winnie Mandela Comments on Ban, Husband's Release

MB090858 Umtata Capital Radio in English 0700 GMT 8 Jul 86

[Text] Winnie Mandela says the lifting of her banning orders is no particular achievement. Quoted for the first time since the lifting of the restrictions, Mrs Mandela has told *Business Day* that she does not regard her new freedom as being of great significance. She says the lifting of the ban is not a human gesture by the Botha government, and ultimately it is her own unrelenting fight that has won through. Mrs Mandela is angry at speculation that her husband Nelson Mandela and Soviet dissident Andrey Sakharov are to be freed as part of the East-West prisoner exchange. She says that it is an insult to the liberation struggle to compare leaders in the struggle to Russian dissidents and spies.

Deputy Defense Minister Interviewed on Bombings

MB081006 Johannesburg Television Service in Afrikaans 1900 GMT 7 Jul 86

[Interview with Deputy Minister of Defense and of Law and Order Mr Adriaan Vlok by Freek Robinson on the "Network" program — live]

[Text] [Robinson] Good evening, Minister Vlok, in our Pretoria studio, and welcome to our program. Mr Vlok, recently there have been several bombings all over the country. Is one to deduce from this that the police and the Defense Force have lost control to a certain extent?

[Vlok] No, not at all, Freek. I think we can say with conviction that the Defense Force, the security forces, are fully in control of the situation. But we also have to keep the proper perspective here. We have to remember that the ANC, which is responsible for these bomb blasts, wants these explosions to take place. It is important to them. And in the same breath we must say that the ANC is a barbaric organization of murderers who have no concern for the destruction of human lives. Let us remember that it is the ANC which issued the orders for the planting of these bombs. They are the ones who have issued instructions for these necklace murders. They want the bombings, and I believe we can also add that the explosions, and the apparent intensification of this, is important to them, because they want to create the impression that they are more powerful than they actually are. So, let me say that the security forces are very successful, and that is why the ANC is trying so desperately to create the impression that they are more effective than they really are.

[Robinson] According to statements from government, other forms of violence have decreased but it seems that there is now an increase in bomb attacks. Why particularly bomb atacks? Does this fit into a certain strategy which you may be aware of?
[Vlok] It is true to say that, according to the information provided by the bureau, the number of incidents is decreasing daily. We are very grateful for that. But bomb atacks in themselves is a means of instilling fear in people that the bombers are more powerful than they actually are. So I think this fits into their planning for causing fear among the people.

[Robinson] Would you say one can link this directly to the ANC, or is it true, as some reports say, that certain members of the ANC have got out of control?
[Vlok] I link this directly to the ANC because it is the ANC which has given the order; it is the ANC which has sent these people to South Africa; it is the ANC which plans that bombs are transported to South Africa via our neighboring states; and it is a further indication that the ANC not only has no control over its members when it states that these acts of terrror do not take place on its direct order, but that is a story because the fact of the matter is that the ANC has very clearly indicated and acknowledged that it would attack any target, soft as well as hard.

[Robinson] Is there reasonable clarity on the origin and type of bombs used?
[Vlok] I want to say very clearly that the ANC does not have a base within South Africa. It does not have a weapons arsenal inside South Africa. These bombs are of Russian origin and are imported into South Africa through our neighboring states.

[Robinson] Generally, Mr Vlok, how can the public be certain that action will be taken to put a stop to this type of thing and what can the ordinary man do to contribute to it?
[Vlok] I want to assure the public that the security forces will leave no stone unturned to protect them against attackers and killers. The public can be alert, cool-headed. I want to give an example. You know in Israel, for example, it is a fact that no package will lie for longer than 2 minutes without it being observed. Someone will observe it, report it, and action will be taken against that package. The public in South Africa who are alert can help us tremendously if they are watchful, alert, report vehicles, report suspicious persons, report packages so that the security forces can investigate them immediately.

[Robinson] Mr Vlok, to digress for the moment, could one, in these times, say that while there are bomb attacks and the government is busy implementing the state of emergency, other initiatives are suffering to some extent?
[Vlok] Definitely not. I think the state of emergency was declared so that the government could restore order, that the government could get the reform initiatives going, to get them on track, because you must remember that the reform initiatives of the South African Government do not fit in with the style of the ANC. They do not want reform in South Africa. Therefore, we regard the state of emergency as an opportunity to regulate, to arrange, to create infrastructures inside which political initiatives can get going and people can live normally, work, attend school, commute and do their shopping. Thank you, Freek.

Communist Threat to Southern Africa Outlined

MB081246 Johannesburg International Service in English 0630 GMT 8 Jul 86

[Station commentary: "The Communist Threat to Southern Africa"]

[Text] A South African academic study pointing to the similarities between communist methods of subversion in Central America and those in South Africa is of significance to the whole of southern Africa. The study by the Institute for American Studies at the Rand Afrikaans University in Johannesburg says that the so-called liberation theology now being used by the ANC and its fellow travelers was first applied with great success in Nicaragua by the Sandinistas. In both cases the [words indistinct] took place in Moscow and in both cases the leaders are Marxists who believe in a Marxist-Leninist system of government. The study points out that the communist Sandinista government in Nicaragua came to power in 1979 with the support of liberal Roman Catholics and other leftists. Numerous Western governments also lent moral and material support. This sort of support for the ANC and SWAPO is also rife in western capitals.

American opponents of aid to the rebels in Nicaragua contend that the Sandinista government does not constitute a threat to neighboring states or the United States. The fact of the matter, however, is that Nicaragua under the Sandinista government already constitutes a threat to its neighbors and to the United States. Its army is supported by military advisers and others from Cuba, the Soviet Union, East Germany, and Libya. Together the armies of Nicaragua and Cuba form the greatest anti-American force in the Western Hemisphere.

The buildup of Soviet weapons and a large number of communist advisers in southern African countries follows the same pattern. The number of personnel in Soviet embassies in southern Africa seems excessive: 100 in Mozambique, 65 in Zimbabwe, 130 in Zambia, where the military attache is a KGB general, 45 in Angola, and 27 in Lesotho. As in Central America, the communists' presence in southern Africa is not for the benefit of the region. It is there purely in the interests of bringing about a communist world, a world in which there will be no individual or community freedom let alone prosperity.

COSATU Condemns Johannesburg Meetings Ban

MB081500 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1458 GMT 8 Jul 86

[Text] Johannesburg, July 8, SAPA — The ban on meetings in the Johannesburg and Roodepoort area, along with all the other sweeping restrictions under the state of emergency, is further confirmation that the government has shunned democratic solutions to the country's crisis, the confederation of trade unions [as received] (COSATU) said in a statement today. The statement issued to SAPA, Johannesburg, said the organisations affected by the ban are legitimate democratic organs of our people. The ban on meetings will seriously hamper the work of COSATU and its affiliates in the affected areas, said the statement. "COSATU is a democratic organisation and our legitimate activity cannot continue effectively without meetings for broad discussion and reports back," the statement said. The ban is also a further blow to the labour relations system which unions are trying to maintain under extremely difficult conditions, it added.

One-Third Striking Kimberley Miners Back at Work

MB081224 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0915 GMT 8 Jul 86

[Text] About one-third of the nearly 2,000 black mine workers of the De Beers company's four mines in Kimberley returned to work this morning after being on strike since last Thursday. A company spokesman said the mine management and leaders of the strike were still conducting negotiations. The mines affected by the strike are Wesselton, De Beers, Du Toitspan, and Bultfontein.

Free State Mines Still Closed by Strike

MB090723 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0716 GMT 9 Jul 86

[Text] Johannesburg, July 8, SAPA — The number 4 and 7 shafts at Free State Geduld gold mines near Welkom are still closed due to the safety hazards caused by a go-slow by workers at the mine, an Anglo American spokesman said today. He said the shafts are still closed and discussions between mine management and the National Union of Mineworkers are continuing.

The spokesman said the employees at both closed shafts have been informed that they will remain closed until they undertake to return to working normally. A spokesman for Amcoal said there has been another day of two-hour stoppages at Kriel colliery involving both morning and afternoon shifts involving about 1000 employees. The spokesman said the stoppages were apparently in support of a call for the release of union members detained under the emergency regulations.

Press Reviews Current Issues, Problems

[Editorial Report]

SOWETAN: Emergency 'Facts'

On page 4 in the space usually provided for the editorial the Johannesburg *Sowetan* in English prints "no comment" and goes on to say "the facts speak for themselves." Among others it says that since the emergency clampdown "criminal charges including murder, arson and assault are to be laid against 780 people detained under emergency regulations" according to the Bureau for Information, "130 people have died in unrest, and 13 blasts have rocked the country killing 3 and injuring 117 people."

European Community Demands

"In all the heat engendered by the European Community's threats to impose sanctions within three months if certain demands are not met, nobody has bothered to question the demands that are being made," says the page 6 editorial in Johannesburg *The Citizen* in English on 5 July. The demands are that the government free Nelson Mandela, unban the ANC, and commence without delay" 'national dialogue with the authentic leaders of the Black population.' " A parallel is drawn with the Irish Republican Army (IRA) and the editorial says that if Nelson Mandela must be freed "why not demand that Britain free IRA leaders so that the peace of Northen Ireland can be negotiated with the IRA?" Similarly it should be demanded of Britain that the IRA be unbanned. Concerning the national dialogue with the authentic leaders of the black population, it is asked why everything "should revolve around Nelson Mandela and the ANC." "The EC also speaks out strongly against the state of emergency and the 'indiscriminate arrest of thousands of South Africans.' Yet a country faced with an insurrection, with radicals planning to burn and kill in an outburst of violence around the June 16 commemoration of Soweto '76 and Freedom Day on June 26, simply had to declare a state of emergency." Concerning the customary demand that South Africa end apartheid, this is being done by having representatives of all race groups in the provincial executive committees which will run the provinces. At the national level, the new National Council, "which will advise the State President and the Cabinet on eliminating discrimination and creating machinery for a new constitution to include Blacks in the central government process, will be formed later this year." "Instead of threatening to impose sanctions on South Africa, foreign governments should be awarding the State President a prize for being the Great Reformer and the man who is doing most to bring about peaceful change."

ANC Terrorism

A page 6 editorial in Johannesburg *The Citizen* in English on 7 July comments on the call by 8 top business executives to free Nelson Mandela immediately and unconditionally, unban the ANC , and negotiate with the ANC on the country's future. The editorial advises the executives to tell the ANC "brutally and frankly" to "cut out the terrorism. Stop killing or maining people. Your hands drip with the blood of the innocents." Gavin Relly, chairman of Anglo American, is urged to tell Oliver Tambo and his fellow ANC executives of his "revulsion over the terrible atrocities being committed in the ANC's name" and that it should stop its attacks on soft targets. Tony Bloom, chairman of the Premier Group, is also urged to "stop telling the Government what it should do and for a change address some demands to the ANC." Referring to Chris Ball's newspaper article wherein he says " 'the pattern of violence against the White sector has for the most part not involved soft targets,' " the editorial says the "ANC has been hitting at soft targets with a viciousness that should shock anyone with any spark of humanity." "The executives can't be so naive as to believe that the ANC wants to negotiate South Africa's future when all it wants is the handing over of power to the Black majority. To agree to the ANC's demand would mean capitulation — and no government would capitulate to terrorists."

Ministers of State Counted

"A political study has shown South Africa and the homelands it spawned have 153 Ministers of State. All are paid salaries and allowances from taxpayers' coffers," says a page 12 editorial in Johannesburg *The Star* in English on 7 July. This has come about through the "deliberate fragmentation of the country under grand apartheid" and "more proliferation of government came with the tricameral system." It is asked whether their combined salaries at a cost of at least R7.5 million has provided "effective political administration." "The multiministerial malady affects us all, regardless of political affiliation, including the majority vote. If voters and non-voters demand a better deal from those in public office — and demand it loudly — this could, at least, slow down the ministerial birth-rate."

Revision of Customs Agreement

John D'Oliveira writes on the same page that government officials in South Africa, Lesotho, Swaziland and the TBVC states (Transkei, Bophuthatswana, Venda and Ciskei) are studying a technical report which is aimed at recasting the 1969 Southern African Customs Union Agreement, of which the payout for most recipient governments is their biggest source of income. "South Africa would like to see the emphasis of the agreement shifted from revenue-sharing to the encouragement of development. Whatever the studies now under way will produce for each of the governments involved, the resulting international negotiations will take place against a background of greatly increased tension in Southern Africa."

CAPE TIMES on Reform

A page 6 editorial in the Cape Town *Cape Times* in English on 4 July says the "Government is sensitive about the reception being given to its reform programme, both at home and abroad." The government is "upset at the lack of loud cheers around the world for its latest reformist measures, including the scrapping of the pass laws. And as usual it blames the press, such as the way foreign correspondents portray this country abroad" but the reality is that government itself "undercuts the impact of genuine and welcome reforms by other actions," such as imposing the state of emergency. Even though the "pass laws have gone and South African citizenship has been restored to some black people deprived of it by homeland partition, black people now have freehold tenure and people of colour have been included in the four provincial administrations" there are "reservations, limitations and government actions which make people go back to study the fine print" and the "credibility of what is being done is immediately undermined." People are still being prosecuted for giving shelter to Crossroads refugees, prosecuted under the Group Areas Act, and "forced removals have not ended when other ways are found of removing people." Therefore the state president's appeal to black South Africans to come forward and negotiate in peace is met with suspicion. "This suspicion results not from what anyone else says, but from what the government itself does to create the impression that all its reforms come wrapped in apartheid string."

CAPE TIMES on Bomb Blasts

Another editorial on the same page refers to the recent bomb blasts throughout the country as "city life in South Africa since June 16." Despite the blasts it is "comforting to have official assurances that the incident level is dropping, that things are improving and that reform is about to win the day. Since the authorities have all the information, and the public and newspapers only officially approved snippets, the ordinary public, will of course, conclude that officialdom knows best. It is greatly liberating to dispense with one's personal discretion to assess what is really going on." Those who have "surpressed their natural instinct to know hat is going on around them, will walk cautiously through the streets. And they will hope that Bishop Tutu's passionate call for an end to the bombings will have some effect."

Emergency Strains Labor Relations

Phillip van Niekerk writes on page 6 of the *Cape Times*: "The most severe crackdown on the labour movement in a decade has jeopardized one of the genuine areas of change in an undemocratic society — industrial relations between largely white employers and predominantly black workers." However, the Labor Monitoring Group "notes three ways in which the unions are coping with the high number of detentions and unionists on the run: Shop-floor workers have stepped into the breach left by officials and administrative staff; shop-floor workers have become directly responsible for important negotiations; and office bearers are taking leave to fill the gaps left in negotiating teams." "In these political times routine negotiations have been bedevilled by a climate of mistrust, disputes have been more difficult to resolve and relations between frontline management and workers have deteriorated." Some employers are "tempted to watch the clash between the state and the unions from the sidelines" while others are genuinely anxious as they see that peaceful change in South Africa depends on negotiation. "They believe that in the labour arena they have been talking to the genuine representatives of their workers for seven years," an example which should be extended to the political arena. Yet, the government has "squashed the labour movement and jailed the very people employers believe they should be talking to."

Western Interest in RSA

John Battersby in his "London Dateline" column on the same page says the United State's intention to have ministerial contact with the ANC will "consolidate Western recognition of the ANC as an indispensable part of the South African solution and as a cohesive vehicle for the aspirations of predominantly African nationalists." President Reagan and Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher have made it clear that their shift in position "does not indicate any softening in their opposition to general economic sanctions or their commitment to the necessity for a black-white dialogue and a suspension of violence." The mood in western capitals has hardened dramatically: "Apartheid must go, and if that means that the Botha government must go with it, then so be it," but the dilemma is how to replace the government with a non-racial democratic order without destroying the economy. The West does not want to risk forfeiting its "influence and leverage on a post-apartheid government — increasing the likelihood of an independent Azania falling into the Eastern bloc sphere of influence." The West cannot also risk losing its supply of strategic minerals or the crucial sea lanes. Now a debate has begun as to whether the West should support ANC guerrillas if Pretoria refuses to compromise but "even given the fast-changing backdrop to the South African crisis it is difficult to imagine one of the major Western powers giving overt or covert aid to the ANC." "The point is fast approaching where the present government in South Africa itself will represent a threat" to the strategic interests the West has in southern Africa and which it does not want to jeopardize.

Disdain for Foreign Views

A page 8 editorial in the Johannebsburg *Business Day* in English on 7 July says "Foreign Minister Pik Botha's defiant comment on sanctions — 'let them come' — reinforces the message conveyed by the State President's rude rebuff to Sir Geoffrey Howe's peace mission." The state president's "brushing aside international peacemaking efforts does convey a message: for good or ill, the Nationalists have decided that they can no longer meet the expectations of foreign opinion, and they have stopped trying." The reason guessed at for this shift towards disdain for foreign views is that the "security situation has deteriorated to the point where government no longer feels it can afford to let foreign views inhibit the pressing task of restoring order." The ANC too, "conveys a message of profound change of outlook. There is no longer any pretence of avoiding civilian targets, nor of using selective violence to induce a change of heart in the white population. The policy is to kill." Even though the conflict in South Africa has gone beyond "civil commotion, and perhaps beyond insurrection," "moderates have no option but to try to keep alive the chances of liberalising reform, but they will be more effective if they recognise the prior need to restore a semblance of order."

BUSINESS DAY on Sanctions

An editorial on page 8 of the *Business Day* says: "A prediction at the weekend that full sanctions will cost SA a million jobs, and that most of the victims will be black, is the sort of forecast that tends to come before a horse race — informed, probably sound enough, but subject to suprises." However, if South Africa must suffer unemployment then "repatriation might compensate for almost half the predicted loss of jobs among black people." It is also expected that black trade unions will have to negotiate in conditions of huge over-supply of labor. "The notion that sanctions offer easy answers is about to be tested."

Unease Among Foreign Bankers

Economics editor Gerald Prosalendis writes on the same page on South Africa's debt position and its willingness or ability to repay. The unease among foreign bankers about South Africa revolves around the issues of whether SA is "able or willing indefinitely to maintain a current account surplus, at great cost to the local economy and with no tangible payoffs, merely to transfer capital to the industrialised world," and whether the growing threat of mandatory sanctions against SA could push the country to the "point of retaliating against opponents." Nerves are "fraying under the sword of sanctions." Because of the "present political impasse between SA and foreign governments, some say that the chance of successful financial negotiations next June are diminishing. Unless common goals can be restated, both bankers and the SA authorities appear to be heading towards a collision course."

Success of Security Forces

In a page 10 editorial Johannesburg *Die Vaderland* in Afrikaans says: "Because of the restrictions placed on the media by the emergency regulations it is difficult to determine how successful the security forces' actions have been. But two things are notable. This week's bomb explosion in the center of Johannesburg showed once again that the revolutionary forces are applying themselves to violence in earnest, regardless of the consequences. And that means that drastic and intensive action is needed to counter the violence and if possible restore law and other so that people can carry on with their normal daily lives." It would also appear that the security forces are able to "stem the violent onslaught to a considerable degree." The fact that 780 detainees are to be formally charged is welcomed because now the law can take its course. "Stripped of political excuses, the offenders' deeds can be exposed for what they really are: criminal transgressions of the most gruesome sort, intimidating the innocent, damaging property, and murdering under the cloak of liberation. In this way the state's allegations can be supported by proper witness and evidence ...or proven wrong."

Negotiations With Black Leaders

A second editorial on the same page says: "President P.W. Botha has in the recent past made several appeals to moderate black leaders to work togehter for peaceful change. His latest appeal, however, is given added significance because the authorities have acted so strongly against violence and intimidation that it practice it is easier for black leaders to come forward. For the government, it is important that it be seen to be negotiating with black leaders as this is precisely what is being demanded of it by more responsible section of the international community, in order to avoid sanctions." "A new constitutional, economic, and social system must come in this country. It is not enough that apartheid laws are repealed. The cooperation President Botha is asking for is in the interests of the black people themselves. And of the whole of South Africa."

Abolition of Pass Books

"The formal end of the pass book system this week, and the issuing of the first uniform identity documents, is a historic event in South Africa's national politics," says Pretoria *Die Transvaler* in Afrikaans on 4 July in a page 18 editorial. "Suddenly the reference book — or 'dompas' — which for millions of blacks was the nucleus around which their lives turned from the cradle to the grave and which was a symbol of the policy which regulated people's lives and movements, is no more." It has been replaced by an identity document without "the stigma of servitude." A massive information program is needed to remove the mistrust of the government's sincerity in creating a new future for all.

ZAMBIA

UK Secretary Howe Arrives to 'Chilly' Welcome

MB091024 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1000 GMT 9 Jul 86

[Text] British Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe's southern Africa visit got off to a shaky start in Zambia. Reports say Sir Geoffrey received a chilly welcome in Lusaka this morning after Zambian President Kenneth Kaunda said he agreed to meet the foreign secretary only because he represented European countries. When asked why he had agreed to see the foreign secretary when others, notably the ANC, were outspokenly critical of the so-called peace mission, Dr Kaunda emphasized he was seeing Sir Geoffrey in his capacity as a messenger from the EEC. Dr Kaunda said the EEC needs to be told what African countries had told the British Government on a number of ocassions in the past.

Comments on EEC Representation

MB091149 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 9 Jul 86

[Text] British Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe has said the apartheid system in South Africa must go. The British minister was speaking on arrival today at Lusaka's international airport to begin a tour of Zambia, Zimbabwe, and Mozambique. He said that his mission must be viewed in the light that he is not representing Britain alone, but the whole European Economic Community which has [words indistinct] to promote dialogue between South Africans. Sir Geoffrey said even South African President P.W. Botha, who has refused to meet the British Minister during his tour of the region, as other prominent South Africans have done, has admitted that apartheid is outmoded.

Kaunda Receives Saudi Envoy, Comments on Israel

MB082009 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 8 Jul 86

[Text] His Excellency President Kaunda declared today that Zambia's relations with Israel will remain broken until that country vacates Arab land and grants the Palestinian people their rights. Dr Kaunda said Zambia is not against the State of Israel but it is against (?its actions) which he likened with those of racist South Africa.

The president was speaking when he met the Saudi Arabia special envoy, Shaykh 'Abd al-'Aziz (al-Thunayan). He said Zambia was pleased at the warm relations that exist between her and Saudi Arabia, (?adding) [words indistinct]. President Kaunda told the envoy that Zambia and Saudi Arabia faced similar situations which he said have been precipitated by the actions of the racist South Africa republic in this region and Israel in the Middle East. Shaykh 'Abd al-'Aziz said he was in the country to discuss (?various problems) at the request of King al-Sa'ud of Saudi Arabia.

ZIMBABWE

Mugabe Meets Afghan Deputy Foreign Minister

MB081856 Harare Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 8 Jul 86

[Text] The deputy minister of foreign affairs in Afghanistan, Comrade (Shawa Yurish), today paid a courtesy call on the prime minister, Comrade Robert Mugabe. Comrade (Yurish), accompanied by Comrade (Cassim Ahmed), briefed Comrade Mugabe on the situation in this country in view of the forthcoming Nonaligned Movement summit in Harare.